

DAILY REPORT

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DIET SESSION 26 DEC TO NOMINATE PRIME MINISTER

OW200417 Tokyo KYODO in English 0355 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 20 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone set out Tuesday to bring his ruling Liberal-Democratic Party under control, two days after voters dealt it a serious blow in the general election.

Nakasone called former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda to express his regret for not leading the party to a convincing victory in the House of Representatives election Sunday. At the same time he asked Fukuda, head of an influential faction within the party, for guidance.

The LDP captured 250 of the 511 seats at stake in the election which Nakasone called in an effort to break a deadlock caused by the October guilty verdict handed former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, the country's most powerful politician. A final tabulation Monday showed voters turned their backs on the conservative party, reducing its holdings in the lower house from 286 before the election to 250, six short of a simple majority. The governmental party managed to retain a majority by bringing eight independents into its ranks.

The government, meanwhile, informally decided to convene a special Diet (parliament) session on December 26 for nomination of new prime minister. Nakasone expressed his determination to remain in power and his telephone call to Fukuda Tuesday morning apparently reflected his will to continue to hold the reins of government. LDP Secretary General Susumu Nikaido also called for party unity at a meeting of party executives. He said the party is more important than factions and asked the executives to cooperate with him.

Nakasone was reported to be planning to complete appointments of new party executives and formation of his new Cabinet within this year after winning the nomination at the Diet. He is expected to face some rough going, however, as leaders of factions against him said they wanted the prime minister to clearly reveal how he would express responsibility for the party setback in the election. The factions led by Tanaka and former Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki have expressed their continued support for Nakasone. Fukuda has so far has refrained from making a clear cut commitment to Nakasone.

Those who are close to the prime minister expressed belief that anti-Nakasone factions would not stage an internal power struggle if they win concessions appointments of party executives and Cabinet ministers.

Nakasone Interviewed

OW191313 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 0700 GMT 19 Dec 83

[LDP President Yasuhiro Nakasone's news conference at the LDP headquarters in Tokyo; questioners not identified -- live]

[Text] [Unidentified voice] A number of questions will first be asked by a reporter on behalf of the Press Club.

[Question] Mr LDP President, during the election campaign you said that you were seeking to win a simple majority of 256 seats. To your regret, however, your party has won only 250 seats. May we ask you candid views on this outcome?

[Nakasone] This election was held toward the end of the year, causing much inconvenience to the general populace.

I am very sorry for this. Faced with this election outcome, I feel that the LDP is now under an extensive trial. I think that our party should feel that it has received a very strong criticism from the people. In this sense, we should reflect on ourselves, humbly accept the people's judgment, and make a new start.

[Question] Commenting on this defeat, former Prime Minister Suzuki said that the LDP took light of the public opinion on political ethics and this has caused the defeat. What do you think is the cause of this defeat?

[Nakasone] I think there are many reasons for the defeat. Our party has not necessarily been successful in fully explaining its political position on the question of political ethics to the people, thereby touching off much criticism. The low voter turnout has also caused the defeat, I think. But I will not repeatedly mention them in a bid to find an excuse. We should reflect on ourselves, realize and rectify our shortcomings, and make a new start.

[Question] Some nonmainstreamers in the LDP view that this defeat has been caused by the party's failure to settle the Tanaka question. Some opposition parties are also moving to again present the resolution calling for former Prime Minister Tanaka's resignation from his Diet seat. What do you think of this resolution and the call for settling the Tanaka question?

[Nakasone] The election has just ended and the question should be handled through exchange of views among all party members. I expressed my views on the question during the election campaign, but I do not think I was fully successful in obtaining the people's understanding. During the election campaign, I told the people that I would like to establish a political ethics committee under the direct control of the LDP presidency. In the House of Councillors we already have a consultative body for debate on political ethics among various parties. I told the people that I would like to set up a similar body in the House of Representatives as well so that various parties could discuss and examine the question of political ethics and take practical measures. I think that it is a good idea to handle this question along this plan.

[Question] During the election campaign, you made a public pledge to reveal information on Cabinet members' properties to the public. May I ask how you are going to implement this pledge and establish political ethics in the future?

[Nakasone] I think that it is still too early to answer the question because I have not yet been nominated prime minister. I will implement all my campaign pledges if I am nominated prime minister.

[Question] The LDP secretary general said in today's news conference that he was keenly aware of his responsibility for this defeat. What do you think of your responsibility for the defeat as party president?

[Nakasone] I am fully aware that the people have offered very severe criticism to us through this election. However, it should be noted that the current situation is so grave that we cannot allow even a day's political vacuum. Among others, we face an impending task of ratifying a Japan-USSR fishery agreement so that we could send people to Nakhodka to receive fishing permits from the Soviet authorities within this year. This way, our fishing boats will be able to leave their ports on 1 January next year. A budget compilation is another impending task. All in all, any delay in state administration should not be allowed. In this context, we cannot allow even a day's vacuum in our state administration. I would like to fulfill my responsibility by smoothly conducting and further improving our state administration.

[Question] According to my memory, when the LDP sustained defeat 4 years ago under the Ohira government, you asked the late Prime Minister Ohira to resign, saying that he should take responsibility for the defeat. What do you think of your own responsibility at this time?

[Nakasone] As I have said, I am deeply reflecting on myself. I will mend my ways if I find them wrong. This is how I feel now.

[Question] I would like to ask about future political prospects and Diet steering. There will be an election for the prime ministership. I would like to ask for a few questions on the assumption that you will again be nominated for prime minister. The LDP previously held 286 seats; it has won 250 seats in this election. Through an expected addition of seats by giving party memberships to some independent winners, your party will barely exceed the line of a simple majority in lower house strength. Under these political circumstances, your party will face extreme difficulty in Diet proceedings and political activities. As LDP president, how are you going to handle the relations between your party and opposition parties?

[Nakasone] I think that the political situation has totally changed. Particularly the Diet situation has extensively changed. Therefore, our future Diet steering should cope with this new situation. We will naturally have to fully discuss Diet management with the opposition parties. We should be ready to adopt their useful ideas, while fully expressing our views to them. I think that we should conduct Diet affairs in a humble manner through constructive exchanges of views. The situation has totally changed. This is my realization.

[Question] In the election, the so-called middle-of-the-roads, such as Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party, have made a great advance. Some of these middle-of-the-roads seriously consider cooperating with the LDP on policy issues. I know that the LDP once conducted negotiations with some middle-of-the-road parties on budget amendments when they were in a situation where the ruling and opposition parties were on a par in their Diet strengths. What do you think about the possibility of cooperating with middle-of-the-roads?

[Nakasone] When the possibility appears as a practical issue in the future, I will handle the issue through the consensus of all party members, but the LDP will basically seek to cooperate with the opposition parties. I believe that we should strive to promote cooperation with the opposition parties and steer the Diet in a smooth way.

[Question] Do you have any plan to meet opposition party leaders at an appropriate time?

[Nakasone] I am ready to meet them whenever necessary.

[Question] I would like to ask about the LDP's intraparty affairs. The LDP now faces a very critical situation as a result of the election outcome -- that is, the poor showing of 250 seats. Some factions express doubts about your political stance and policies which you have followed so far. Some express the view that you, as party president, have made a wrong decision on the timing of the Diet dissolution and the election, although the timing was made under some complicated situations. As party president, how are you going to handle the issue of party unity in the future?

[Nakasone] It was my ardent desire to pass all bills, including those of administrative reforms and tax reductions, during the last extraordinary Diet session.

I pledged to the people that I would make every effort to pass them. At any rate, I was able to pass all the bills, including the administrative reform bill, through the understanding of the opposition parties. The Diet dissolution came as the result of this understanding. Through this election, the people passed criticism on us. We will carefully analyze how the people became critical of us. We will carefully study the thoughts of the people and their criticism of the LDP. We will fully study the people's real desires and work to meet them with sincerity in the future. All our party members are desirous of serving the interest of their country. I will carefully listen to their views and work to promote party solidarity and consolidate party unity wholeheartedly.

[Question] It can be said that the LDP's history over the past decade has been a history of intraparty turmoil, including the latest 40-day strife which is still in our memory. Would you comment once more on your resolve as LDP president to deter similar troubles in the face of the difficult situation brought on by the severe election result?

[Nakasone] This is a very important matter. The people, I believe, expect the LDP to preserve its unity and implement its campaign pledges. Therefore, I feel that my major responsibility as LDP president is to build a system whereby those campaign pledges can be faithfully carried out. In this connection, I will listen to the views of other people in the party and of my predecessors on what to do to build such a system.

[Question] Do you have any plan to meet in the near future with other party leaders, that is, with ex-prime ministers in the LDP?

[Nakasone] Of course, I will see them when it become necessary. The election is just over and I am now working with the three top executives and other leading officials of the party on whatever steps there are for us to take. While doing so I will be open to suggestions from people of various segments within the party. All I would like to say on the subject now is that I will be willing to ask for their views and listen to their views whenever I find it necessary.

[Question] Do you have any plan to convene a session of LDP's supreme advisers?

[Nakasone] What I have just said goes for that too. Moreover, it is also possible that I will see them individually.

[Question] Although it is not known yet exactly when they will become real problems, except that it will be after the nomination of the prime minister by the Diet future major problems include those involving new party and Cabinet lineups. I would like to ask you about plans you may have about the LDP's three top executive positions. Would you comment?

[Nakasone] I have not even been nominated yet to the premiership and I would be very presumptuous if I should answer that question now. What is important now is for me to work for party unity. On the matter you have just mentioned, I am with a clean slate at the moment.

[Question] Next, I would like to ask you about the political and diplomatic timetable. In your estimate, when will the extraordinary session of the Diet be convened, as it will be the next political focus of attention?

[Nakasone] As I have said, state administration allows neither a vacuum nor a delay. Especially, the ratification of the Japan-USSR and USSR-Japan fishing agreements is one of the most urgent matters now.

They should be ratified as soon as possible, so that the fishing permit from the Soviet side can be delivered to fishermen in time for their departure scheduled for 1 January. To that end, the agreements must be ratified by a plenary session of the Diet as soon as possible, because I understand that officials then will fly all the way to Nakhodka to receive the Soviet permit. With all this taken into account, I feel that the Diet session should be convened at the earliest possible date and that the necessary steps should be taken. I have already made my request to the party in this respect. I am still unable to announce a specific date yet, however. My only wish is to have the Diet session convened early enough to get the matters I mentioned to be acted on in time. On the other hand, however, the Diet has its preparations to make, which will take some days to complete. The question is how to synchronize those situations. As for the position of the administration, we have already informed the party executives on this matter.

[Question] I understand that you are planning to complete business on new Cabinet and party lineups at an early date after the convocation of the extraordinary Diet session and before the end of the year. Do you think that you can finish all this as planned? What are the prospects?

[Nakasone] If I should again be nominated to the premiership I would prefer to complete all the business you mentioned before the end of the year. Otherwise, there would be problems with the compilation of the budget for fiscal 1984 which is to be started in early January. With this in mind, I feel that the key party posts, as well as Cabinet posts, should best be filled before the end of the year.

[Question] What are the prospects of the budget compilation work you have just mentioned? It seems to have also something to do with those party and Cabinet reshuffles. Do you have any specific details you can announce now in connection with that work?

[Nakasone] I feel that the ordeal and criticism we have just gone through in the election are so great that the experience should be reflected in the process of budget compilation. The budget should be compiled in such a way, I think, that the views of every opposition party are adequately taken into consideration in the process. I believe that we should work for a budget based on full considerations and deliberations. In that sense, there should be ample time reserved for that process. To that end, the necessary intraparty work should begin at the earliest possible day after the new year. We will have to start the work as soon as possible in January, so that the budget plan will be ready for presentation to the Diet when it reopens. Every possible effort should be made to avert economic troubles by ensuring this. Delay in the passage of the budget will inevitably have an adverse effect on the economy and the nation's international credibility. Therefore, I think that it is necessary for us to speed up activities in this area.

[Question] My next question is about your campaign mar' that you wanted to visit China in mid- or late March. Do you think that the election result will alter your plan?

[Nakasone] It is my desire not to change my diplomatic schedule if I am nominated to the premiership.

[Question] Do you mean that you will proceed with specific details to carry out that plan?

[Nakasone] Yes, I will. Since contacts have been under way, I would like to see the plan finalized along that line.

[Unidentified voice] The Press Club representative is now through with his questions. Colleagues, you are now free to ask individual questions.

[Question] During your campaign, Mr Prime Minister, it seemed that you thought of the opposition's call for ethics [rinri in Japanese] only as if it were like the singing of the bell-ring insect [chose cry is supposed to sound rinri, suggesting a play on words]. Would you say that you heard it wrong? How does it sound to you now?

[Nakasone] Well, in an election campaign, different people say different things. I feel that once the election is over, however, it is better for all of us to forget about what was said in this war of words, and to cooperate with one another on vital issues of state administration, the development of policies and national prosperity.

[Question] Do you mean that what you said was only a matter of words? Didn't you belittle the issue by likening it to the singing of the bell-ring insect? Don't you think that this belittling caused all the trouble for the LDP?

[Nakasone] Well, I regard the situation we are in now as an expression of our citizen's criticism of us. In that sense, I believe, we should reexamine ourselves in that regard.

[Question] This time three Cabinet members failed to be elected. Would you comment on it?

[Nakasone] I feel very sorry for them. They have my deep sympathy. Having been pre-occupied with state administration, visiting foreign countries or inspecting offices in Tokyo and other localities, they had little time to spend in their constituencies. About the fact that their defeats resulted from these causes, I indeed can find no words to fully express my sympathy.

[Question] The significance of the most recent election was that the people took it as an opportunity to pass their judgment on the 1-year record of the Nakasone administration. The election result shows that their evaluation is profoundly negative. What is your reaction to this judgment, and what do you want to do about it in the future?

[Nakasone] I think that we should first of all humbly admit that the situation involving the Diet has totally changed. Based on that understanding, we should promote cooperation with the opposition and attach greater importance to talks with the opposition parties, with each side presenting its idea and trying to reach a compromise. I believe that the time has come for us to conduct business through constructive talks. In this area, we should do some soul searching and, at the same time, listen to the views of the opposition parties, I think. Incidentally, speaking of policies, I feel that our people are still strongly supporting our policies regarding international relations and administrative reforms. Under our policies, Japan will remain a member of the free world, doing its share, maintaining its defense capabilities at an appropriate level, but without becoming a military giant. Internationally, it will have a say to an appropriate degree, considering its role and obligations. As for administrative reforms, we will faithfully implement programs based on the recommendations of the ad hoc administrative reform research council. In principle, the people still support our policies in these areas, I believe that radical changes in the foreign policy and economic areas are not in the interest of our nation. I think that we all should be careful about this.

[Question] How do you think the court verdict on ex-Prime Minister Tanaka affected the election?

[Nakasone] I think that different persons have different answers to that question.

My own view is that we need to accept the election result as a consequence of political ethics having been a general issue.

[Question] You met with ex-Prime Minister Tanaka some time ago and you said later that you could not but feel what you called sympathy for him during that meeting. Now Mr Tanaka has been elected by a whopping 220,000 votes. What do you think of this?

[Nakasone] I find it more appropriate for myself to refrain from commenting on this or that aspect of an individual's election.

[Question] I recall that you once remarked that the mass media were failing to (?accurately report the will of the people). Now, with the election having turned out the way it has, do you think that you made a slip of the tongue or that the mass media beat you to it after all?

[Nakasone] Well, I think that I would not be much of a man if I tried to find excuses for myself. As you know, I made some remarks about a preelection newspaper article. I still think that I was right with those remarks. Nevertheless, the mass media themselves took steps to cope with the matter, publishing more articles and commentaries. I then decided not to touch on that problem.

[Question] Mr President, you have said that basically speaking, you think that the LDP still enjoys the support of our people as far as those policies concerning international relations and administrative reforms are concerned. During the campaign, you mentioned a new political timetable or a new blueprint you want to develop concerning education and other reforms, as a sweeping settlement of account on political developments since the end of World War II. Don't you feel that that campaign remark of yours stirred considerable apprehensions among the people?

[Nakasone] No, I don't think so. What I meant by a sweeping settlement of account on political developments since the end of World War II can be compared to the overhaul of an automobile engine. When an engine becomes 38 years old, some parts of it show the effects of wear and tear and need improvement and polishing. What I said then was about three of those parts: international relations, administrative reform, and education. Judging from voter response in various localities, I don't think that they even rejected those things which I mentioned about those parts. Of course, I mean that in principle they did not do so regarding individual issues. I believe that we need to talk with opposition parties and, wherever we find better and more constructive ideas, we should adopt them.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, you have said that you will try to promote partywide unity. You also have been saying that the present Cabinet lineup is the best possible one under the present circumstances. Do you now recognize that the present setup represented by that Cabinet lineup does not necessarily embody a unity of the whole party as some people charge?

[Nakasone] The LDP has many capable persons. Indeed, I have been saying that the present Cabinet lineup is the best I could possibly come up with under the present circumstances. What I meant to say was that I picked those capable personalities regardless of factions in the party, under the right-man-in-the-right-place principle and on the basis of work efficiency first. I believe that what I did wasn't necessarily wrong, although it also depends on how the people assess the Cabinet's past accomplishments.

Now that the election is over, however, there is a need to respond to the new mandate of the people, and we should of course take a new look at what we have been doing in that light and what should be done from the viewpoint of partywide unity.

[Question] I recall, Mr President, that you met with the late Prime Minister Ohira following the 1979 general election. In that meeting, you proposed the creation of a council comprising influential leaders in the party for consultations on the party president selection issue. In your present position, is it possible that you still support a similar plan?

[Nakasone] Things have changed to a considerable degree since then. There have been changes in both the objective situation and in the domestic environment. Accordingly, I do not quite agree that what was said then could be applied to the situation we are in now. One thing I would like to add, however, is that as LDP president, I should humbly do some deep soul-searching.

[Question] Viewing the election result as an expression of the people's judgment on the 1-year record of the Nakasone administration, what part of the record do you think led to that judgment?

[Nakasone] It is not a matter of which part; it is not that simple, I think. I now feel that I should do an in-depth analysis in that connection.

[Question] Mr President, you presented a 10-point proposal concerning state finances and the budget issue during your campaign, didn't you?

[Nakasone] Yes, I did.

[Question] That proposal first promised tax cuts but no tax hikes. With the forthcoming budget compilation for fiscal 1984, do you still basically uphold that promise of no tax hikes?

[Nakasone] In my written statement then, I said that I will abide by the guideline set by the ad hoc Administrative Reform Research Council and will not increase taxes. I will do as I said in that statement.

[Question] The popular vote won by the LDP in the election shows an increase, while in terms of the number of seats, it lost many, as we see. Meanwhile, a large number of incumbents, including even those who were considered major candidates, failed to be elected. The election outcome reflects new generations replacing older generations. As party president, how would you draw on this experience in future party management?

[Nakasone] I indeed feel that the flow of the times appears to be quite rapid, and that there were quite strong feelings among the people favoring a change of generation. If I am not mistaken about the election returns, some 60 LDP candidates were runners-up. This fact also should be studied and reexamined.

[Unidentified voice] Any other questions? If there are no other questions, we would like to close this news conference. Thank you.

[Nakasone] Thank you very much.

Defeat Irks Bureaucrats

OW191211 Tokyo KYODO in English 1153 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 19 KYODO -- Senior government officials, upset over the latest election defeat of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, appeared Monday to be bracing themselves for a fullfledged review of the way they handle domestic and external economic policies under pressure from the strengthened opposition parties.

Officials at the major ministries concerned with economic affairs, including the Finance Ministry and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), expressed fear that smooth and flexible economic policy management would become very difficult as the opposition parties will now have a greater say in the Diet (parliament) deliberations. The opposition parties will certainly call, among others, for a higher economic growth, less national spending cuts and tax hikes and lower defense expenditures, they said.

Some Finance Ministry officials expected the government under a new Cabinet would have to aim at achieving an economic growth rate of more than 4 percent in fiscal 1983 and a little more than their initial expectations. MITI officials and economists at the Economic Planning Agency agreed with the budget planners. "We expect more emphasis to be placed on economy-pumping measures in the budget-making process for the next fiscal year," they said.

Some EPA officials warned tax hike plans would be shelved under strong resistance from the opposition parties and the government's pledge to eliminate deficit-covering national bonds under Yasuhiro Nakasone's Cabinet might be scrapped. Senior government officials at various ministries quickly huddled to study ways to cope with the post-election situation. What is uppermost in their minds is a possible vacuum in Japanese politics to be caused by the likely factional strife within the ruling party.

Some Finance Ministry officials were weary of some delay to be expected of the next year's budget preparation while they initially expected to complete a draft budgetary plan in mid-January.

But, they now predicted an extraordinary budget will become necessary to make up for the political vacuum.

Officials at the Foreign Ministry and the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry also were shocked by the election results. They expected Japan's economic relations with the United States would become tense as the country will lack a strong leadership in a new political tug of war. "We need a strong political leadership to settle trade frictions between Japan and other countries," they said. Nakasone, who has been highly appraised among other countries, would lose some of his political clout, they predicted.

Business Leaders Comment

OW191231 Tokyo KYODO in English 1218 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 19 KYODO -- Shocked by the unexpectedly sharp setback of the Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) in Sunday's general election, the nation's business leaders Monday expressed fears of internal bickerings within the ruling party and called upon the LDP to close its ranks in the face of crucial problems both at home and abroad.

Many of them took the election result as the nation's criticism of the LDP's "money power" politics as typified by former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka's involvement in the so-called "Lockheed payoff scandal."

Business leaders voiced concern that the LDP's poor showing would result in bringing the discontent of the "anti-mainstream" factions within the party into the open, triggering bitter internal squabbles, which could cause a political vacuum.

All of them stressed that such a vacuum should never be allowed to occur at a time when Japan has to tackle a number of crucial problems, especially administrative reform, reconstruction of deficit-plagued national finances, trade frictions with the United States and Western Europe, and stimulation of business recovery. In this contest, they called for the cooperation of the opposition parties from a broad standpoint.

Yoshihiro Inayama, president of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), expressed regret over the LDP's setback, but said that although the combined strength of the opposition parties is now about equal to the LDP in the House of Representatives, the free economy will continue to rule in Japan. Stressing the importance of administrative reform for Japan's future, he asked the LDP to avoid internal strife and also called upon the opposition parties to conduct themselves with Japan's true interests in mind.

Tadashi Sasaki, chairman of the Japan Committee for Economic Development (Keizai Doyukai), attributed the LDP's setback to the voters' criticism of politics far removed from their actual sentiments. He called upon the LDP to accept the election result soberly and strive for stable administration and implementation of adequate policies.

Toshiro Kusaba, president of Mitsui Bank and also president of the Federation of Bankers' Associations of Japan, said the LDP should give full consideration to the nation's criticism as expressed in the form of massive abstentions. He urged the LDP not to cause any political vacuum in view of a host of important problems facing the country. He also asked the opposition parties to behave as responsible political parties in the Diet parliament.

Noboru Goto, president of Tokyu Corp. and concurrently president of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry, also warned the LDP against internal wrangling, pointing out the nation's economy is now looking up at long last. If the ruling party should become preoccupied with internal struggles, it would rapidly lose the support of the business community, he said.

Susumu Ono, president of Nippon Yusen K.K. (NYK Line), urged the LDP to dissolve intra-party factions by taking a lesson from the election result. Noting that the LDP's share in the public vote is still over 50 percent, he said that the party will probably be able to recover the lost ground in due time.

Yohei Mimura, president of Mitsubishi Corp., a leading trading house, expressed concern that the substantial increase in the opposition's power might result in slowing the tempo of Japan's effort to trade liberalization and internationalization. That would constitute a major obstacle to "establishing a stable Japan in the world," he warned.

FOOD AID SCHEDULED FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

OW200747 Tokyo KYODO in English 0737 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 20 KYODO -- Japan will provide Palestine refugees with 160 million yen (696,000 dollars) in food aid, the government said Tuesday. Japan will supply the assistance through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Delegates from Japan and the UN body signed and exchanged notes on the assistance in Vienna Tuesday, the government said.

TEAM RECEIVES DEBRIS FROM DOWNED KAL PLANE

OW201213 Tokyo KYODO in English 1204 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Sapporo Dec 20 KYODO -- Seven Japanese and American officials took delivery at the Soviet port of Nevelsk on Sakhalin Island Tuesday of 83 "objects" from a South Korean airliner downed by a Russian fighter September 1.

Regional Maritime Safety Agency (MSA) officials said the "objects" delivered by the Soviet authorities consisted of 73 scraps of the downed airliner itself, seven bundles of clothes, two books and one plane window blind. The officials said the 3,218-ton MSA patrol boat Tsugaru, carrying two reporters in addition to the government's officials, will arrive back in Otaru port some 34 kilometers west of here Wednesday morning.

This was the second delivery of such "objects" by the Soviet Union since the KAL airliner with 269 passengers and crew members aboard strayed into Soviet airspace and was shot down by a Russian fighter.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY SLOWS FOR 3D STRAIGHT YEAR

OW200347 Tokyo KYODO in English 0238 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 20 KYODO -- Japan's economic activity slowed down for the third straight year in fiscal 1982, winding up the year ended last March 31 with a mild inflation-adjusted gain of 3.3 percent, the government reported Tuesday.

The Japanese economy grew 3.5 percent in real terms in fiscal 1981, 4.6 percent in fiscal 1980, 5.3 percent in fiscal 1979 and 5.1 percent in fiscal 1978, according to the Economic Planning Agency's (EPA) final report on economic accounts in fiscal 1982.

Japan's gross national product (GNP) -- the broadest measure of economic activity -- was valued at 205.26 trillion yen (873 billion dollars) in fiscal 1982 after allowing for inflation. GNP per capita came to 1.79 million yen (7,600 dollars), up 3.6 percent. It was the second straight year of 3 percent-level growth following 3.9 percent in fiscal 1981.

The report said gross domestic product (GDP) -- GNP minus net earnings from abroad such as a trade surplus and investment returns -- totaled 8,967 dollars per capita in calendar 1982, placing Japan 14th among 24 member nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), unchanged from the previous year. Gross national assets totaled 3,019 trillion yen (12.85 trillion dollars) at the end of calendar 1982. They comprised 1,566 trillion yen (6.67 trillion dollars) in real assets such as land and housing, and 1,453 trillion yen (6.18 trillion dollars) in financial assets. Net assets -- excluding liabilities from gross assets -- totaled 1,572 trillion yen (6.69 trillion dollars), up 6.7 percent.

4.8 Percent Growth Seen

OW191036 Tokyo KYODO in English 0736 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 19 KYODO -- Helped by a growing trade surplus, increasing consumer confidence and rising corporate earnings, the Japanese economy will expand at a real annual rate of 4.8 percent in fiscal 1984, a nonprofit research organization forecast Monday. If the forecast holds, economic growth will exceed 3 percent for the first time in four years in the year beginning next April.

Despite a snowballing surplus and a further economic recovery, however, the Research Institute of National Economy was cautious about prospects for the yen-dollar exchange rate. The Japanese currency will hover around 235 to the dollar through much of the coming year, with high American interests helping keep the dollar from falling far, the institute reasoned. It warned the current account surplus, estimated at more than 30 billion, would exacerbate foreign criticism against Japanese trade policies. The current surplus for the current fiscal year is estimated 25 billion dollars.

Positive Fiscal Policy Urged

OW191432 Tokyo KYODO in English 1245 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 19 KYODO -- A top official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Monday called for a change in the present policy of reconstructing deficit-ridden national finances mainly through spending cuts.

The official, who asked not to be named, emphasized the need to carry out a positive economic policy geared to fiscal spending so as to give full play to the vigor of the private sector, although he admitted the necessity of reconstructing national finances. Commenting on how to steer the national economy in the wake of Sunday's general election, he said that the increased flotation of national bonds, even including deficit-covering bonds, should be considered to expedite economic growth, and thus make it possible to boost tax revenues two or three years hence. This could be flexible means of reconstructing national finances, he said.

The official said that a switch to such a positive fiscal policy would serve to ensure sustained economic growth without inflation, which was agreed upon at the Williamsburg Summit of Industrialized Democracies in May this year. Moreover, it will help to expand domestic demand and thus ease trade frictions with the United States and Western Europe, and will also serve as a pump-priming measure to invigorate the private sector for full-scale economic recovery, he said.

BRIEFS

GRANT TO MALAYSIA -- Tokyo Dec 17 KYODO -- Japan has extended a 2,060 million yen (about 8.7 million dollars) grant to Malaysia to help construct a center for advanced skill training in that country, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday. Notes on it were exchanged in Kuala Lumpur Friday, the ministry said. The center, scheduled to be completed around March 1985, is designed to develop instructors for vocational training centers and give training to core technical workers. The Malaysian Government has worked out the plan under its policy of shifting its economy from dependence on primary products to industrial development, a ministry press release said. The project will be implemented as part of the "ASEAN human resources development project" which was proposed in January 1981 by then Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki during his tour of ASEAN countries. Japan already offered a 1,740 million yen grant to the same project in fiscal 1982 and the latest grant will be the last, the release said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0249 GMT 17 Dec 83 OW]

KCNA REPORTS RELEASE OF JAPANESE FISHING BOAT

SK200430 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0414 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 20 (KCNA) -- A naval patrol boat of the Korean People's Army on a routine duty on December 10 detained Japanese fishing boats which were catching fish after illegally intruding into the economic waters of the East Sea of our country, respectively up to a point 39 degrees, 13 minutes, 3 seconds north latitude and 132 degrees, 18 minutes, 3 seconds east longitude, and a point 39 degrees 17 minutes north latitude and 132 degrees 12 minutes east longitude.

The investigation confirmed that these boats are "Kiku-maru No. 8" belonging to the Nagano Fishing Company, Ltd. in Tsuruoka, Yamagata Prefecture, and "Kinko-maru No. 8" belonging to the Akutsu Fishing Limited Responsibility Company in Mirua, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan.

The crewmen of these boats admitted that they illegally intruded into the economic waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and gravely encroached upon her sovereignty over the sea resources and, therefore, they deserved punishment for this.

The organ concerned of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea decided to send back these Japanese fishing boats and their crewmen, considering that the crewmen frankly admitted their crimes and entreated for leniency, though they must be severely punished by law for their crimes.

"Kiku-maru No. 8" left at 11 hours December 20 after going through business-like procedures concerning departure. "Kinko-maru No. 8" will leave as soon as she finishes similar procedures.

The Japanese side should take a relevant measure lest Japanese fishing boats commit such a violation in the future as illegally intruding into the economic waters of our country to catch fish.

NODONG SINMUN ON EUROPEAN OPPOSITION TO U.S. WEAPONS

SK200532 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2238 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 19 (KCNA) -- The peace movement against nuclear weapons waged by broad segments of people in Western Europe under the slogans "We oppose cruise and Pershing missiles", "We don't need blood-stained U.S. weapons" and "We oppose deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe" is connected with the adventurous nuclear war moves of the imperialists which have reached an extremely grave stage, declares NODONG SINMUN today.

Noting that the U.S. imperialists are trying to get a nuclear upper hand in Europe at any cost, the paper says:

This is motivated by the scheme to turn Western Europe into a bridgehead of nuclear war and make this region play the role of a "lightning-conductor" for shielding the U.S. mainland from nuclear retaliation. These moves of the U.S. imperialists are daily increasing the danger of nuclear war in Europe and gravely menacing peace and security in Europe and the world.

Giving a detailed account of the struggle against the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe, which is being waged in nearly all the European countries -- West Germany, Britain, Sweden, Greece, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, etc. -- and by the International Organization of Journalists, the World Federation of Trade Unions, the International Union of Students and other democratic organizations the world over, the paper continues:

The anti-nuclear movement brisk in Western Europe is developing into a more organized and broad solidarity movement. Far from drawing a proper lesson from the mounting anti-nuclear struggle of the people, the U.S. imperialists are desperately working to deploy greater quantities of nuclear weapons in Western Europe under the pretext of "equilibrium" and the like.

The more feverishly the U.S. imperialists try to dominate the world, wielding nuclear weapons, the stronger the people's struggle against them grows.

DAILY ON ANTI-U.S., CHON STRUGGLES IN SOUTH

SK200524 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2230 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 19 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN December 18 carried an article titled "'Government' Crisis Will End in Destruction."

The author of the article says:

The people's struggle against the colonial fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and the treacheries of those stooges is gaining strength in South Korea. At a high pitch is, above all, the anti-American, anti-"government" struggle of South Korean people in all walks of life. The anti-American sentiments which came up to the surface among the South Korean people after the Kwangju popular uprising led to demonstrations and burning of the "Stars and Stripes" and arson at "American Cultural Centers" in Pusan and Kwangju and developed in the bomb blast at the "American Cultural Centre" in Taegu before Reagan's South Korean tour. During Reagan's visit, massive anti-American, anti-"government" demonstrations took place in South Korea. This was an uncommon anti-U.S. struggle previously unknown; it was an eruption of the South Korean people's hatred for and resentment at the U.S. imperialists who rigged up the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist to dictatorial "regime" and are bringing all disasters to them.

What is noteworthy in the anti-"government" struggle in South Korea of late is that the student struggle is combined with the anti-"government" action of the people, such strong demand as "resignation of Chon Tu-hwan" and "overthrow of military fascist dictatorship" is raised in the struggle in the teeth of unprecedented repression by the puppet clique and it continues uninterruptedly in combination with such active forms of action as scattering of leaflets, boycott of classes, demonstration and stone-hurling battle.

The deepening economic bankruptcy inevitably results in a "government" crisis.

The stagnation and bankruptcy of the South Korean economy drive the puppets into a quagmire and threaten the fascist ruling system. Foreign debts amounting to more than 40,000 million dollars are a cancer of the South Korean economy.

The crisis of the South Korean economy results from institutional and structural contradictions and will not be dispelled so long as the colonial fascist rule continues. Meanwhile, the anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle is daily growing with enormous potentialities. Traitor Chon Tu-hwan faked up an "infiltration case" following the Rangoon incident of his own making and is carrying on a frantic anti-communist, anti-DPRK campaign, strengthening fascist repression of the South Korean people and leading the situation of the country to the brink of war. He is seeking a way out of the crisis in North-South confrontation and war racket through the anti-communist smear campaign.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan leaves no measure untried in his attempt to bridge over the crisis of his rule. But he will never save his destiny on the decline.

U.S. MARINES HOLD MILITARY DRILLS IN JAPAN

SK170503 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0402 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 17 (KCNA) -- Preliminary exercises are being held in different areas of Japan by the U.S. Marines in Okinawa which will participate in "Team Spirit-84", the U.S.-South Korea joint military exercise scheduled in South Korea early next year, according to a KNS report from Tokyo quoting a report of the Japanese paper RYUKYU SHINPO December 13. Earlier, a "tent pitching" exercise was held at Fudenma Marine Airforce Base as a preliminary exercise for "Team Spirit-84." This clearly proves how desperately the U.S. imperialists are working to ignite another war of aggression in Korea.

FOREIGN PAPERS HIT U.S., S. KOREA ON BOMBING

SK200820 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 20 (KCNA) -- Papers of various countries published articles on the bomb blast in Rangoon. In an article titled "Political Intrigue Behind Burma's Severance of Relations With Korea, Burma Violates Moral Principle," the Nepalese paper NAYA YUG November 25 said:

Observers think that this incident was caused by a carefully prepared political intrigue of South Korea for removing the influence of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from Burma. An assertion that the incident was manipulated by South Korea is made because Chon Tu-hwan who was to visit the National Mausoleum in Burma was behind the appointed time. Why were South Korean "ministers" alone present to "receive the president"?

Why were Burmese Government ministers absent and how could those present escape death? Isn't it a plot of Chon Tu-hwan to annihilate his opponents? Isn't it a product of collusion between the Burmese authorities and Chon Tu-hwan? Why did Chon Tu-hwan leave in the "Cabinet reshuffle" the "director of the security planning board" and the "chief guard at Chongwadae" at their posts? Observers regard terrorism and murder as a habitual ruling method of the South Korean authorities.

Another Nepalese paper PRAKASH November 13 said:

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea plays an important role in the Non-aligned Movement. Therefore, the U.S. imperialists and their stooges wove such a plot with the purpose of vilifying and slandering Korea. They are insulting the DPRK and conducting an anti-communist campaign in face of the world and working to invade the northern half of the Republic, heightening tension in Korea.

The Congolese paper MWETI December 8 said in an article: The world public would not agree with the provocations of the Chon Tu-hwan clique. All facts show that Chon Tu-hwan himself organised the bomb blast to sack his top-level servants who fell outside his favors with it as a pretext. The anti-communist, anti-DPRK campaign being staged now by the Chon Tu-hwan clique is aimed at covering up its crimes at any cost.

The Indian paper BLITZ December 10 issued an article titled "Rangoon Explosion Is Organised by the U.S. CIA," which said: Diplomatic circles clearly consider that the bomb blast at the National Mausoleum in Burma was engineered by the U.S. CIA behind the scene. Facts after the Burmese Government unilaterally severed diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the basis of "confessions" of "suspects" prove that the Burmese Government is under some pressure in connection with the intrigue.

Tokyo Lecture

SK200513 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo December 18 (KNS-KCNA) -- A lecture meeting on the subject "Falsehood and Truth of the Rangoon Incident" was held on December 14 at the hall of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (SOHYO) in Tokyo under the sponsorship of the Society of Concern for the Korean Question.

Yoshihisa Kajitani, chairman of the society, in his lecture said the Burmese authorities fabricated the "results of the investigation" claiming that the Rangoon bomb blast is "a work of the North" on a prearranged script through a political collusion with the U.S., Japanese and South Korean authorities and the "trial" held by the Burmese authorities was full of doubts and contradictions which do not tally with facts at all.

In his lecture former Seoul correspondent of MAINICHI SHIMBUN Yasuhiro Maeta said:

In short, my doubts are how the scene of the incident was guarded, how a bomb could be easily planted, why it could not be found and how "criminals" could enter Burma under heavy guard carrying the bomb with them. At that time the DPRK Embassy was strictly watched by hundreds of South Korean personnel and the Burmese police authorities. How could the "suspects" plant the bomb in the Aung San Mausoleum which was difficult to approach, keeping contact with the DPRK Embassy?

In view of this, it cannot but be considered that the explosion in Rangoon was committed in contact with South Korea and Burma.

Noting that as soon as the incident took place, Chon Tu-hwan concluded that it was a "work of the North" even before the investigation of the scene and [he] returned to South Korea, he said this bespeaks that Chon Tu-hwan was aware of the explosion in advance.

He continued: As soon as the incident took place Chon Tu-hwan acted, concluding that it was a "work of the North." The main reason was to prevent a coup d'etat which may possibly take place in South Korea after the incident rather than the incident itself. He was accompanied to Burma by more than 200 "leading officials" aboard the plane. Among them were leading figures of the "government" and the president of the "Hyundai Group" and some 40 other leading financial bosses and company presidents. In taking such a large number of personnel with him he intended to make it impossible to move the Army even if a coup d'etat takes place in South Korea during his absence.

In other words, it can be said this is the "hostage policy" of "having his life insured" most heavily.

Referring to the "repose bugle" which was the key to the Rangoon explosion, he said: The man who asked for blowing the "repose bugle" was a "guardsman" of the South Korean side on the scene. He could not mistake Chon Tu-hwan and the "ambassador," because a "guardsman" present at such "function" should be an experienced one. Moreover, he who issues an "order" could not mistake the "president."

The "trial" held by the Burmese authorities was based on no material evidence. The Burmese authorities held the "trial" because "criminals" were decided from the beginning by the South Korean authorities and Burma in the grip of an economic crisis began following South Korea economically.

In the final analysis, it can be said that Burma did not conduct investigation to find out the truth of the incident from a neutral stand but conducted it unilaterally in reliance on the South Korean side.

PARTY POLICY ON CONSUMER QUESTIONS DISCUSSED

SK200210 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2234 GMT 19 Dec 83

[NODONG SINMUN 20 December special article: "The Implementation of the Communist Policy on Food and Clothing Questions"]

[Text] Today, all the people in our country enjoy an affluent and civilized life, free from worry about their daily life as consumers of food and clothing. This is the result of the correct policy and leadership of our party for solving questions concerning the people's daily life.

While once again setting forth the task of further improving the people's living standard at the eighth plenary meeting of the sixth party Central Committee, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song urged functionaries to responsibly carry out this task with high-level party-mindedness, people-mindedness, and the consciousness of the working class.

By thoroughly implementing the respected and beloved leader's teachings, we should make the policy of our party for improving the people's living standard brilliantly reap fruits. To successfully build socialism and communism, the party of the working class should positively implement its communist policies in various sectors of material life by accelerating economic construction. Thus, it can continuously strengthen the communist nature of socialist society and successfully occupy the material and ideological fortresses of communism.

It is very important to correctly solve food and clothing questions in implementing communist policies. Our party has preferentially concentrated on smoothly solving these questions in achieving the 10-point long-term plan for socialist economic construction.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: It is the firm resolve of our party and the Government of the Republic to first implement their communist policies in dealing with food and clothing questions. It is the legal requirements of building communism to first implement communist policies in dealing with food and clothing questions.

Food and clothing questions are the most, urgent matters in the people's daily life. Along with having wholesome ideologies and consciousness, men should feed and clothe themselves well.

Communist society is one in which the people's demand for independence is completely met. To build a communist society by accelerating the revolution and construction, the party of the working class should first implement communist policies in dealing with food and clothing questions so that it can raise the level of the people's living standard as a whole and help the people substantially attain independence in the sector of their material life. Thus, it can highly demonstrate the superiority of the socialist system and continuously solidify and develop socialist society.

The line for first implementing communist policies on food and clothing questions is an independent one which proceeds from the interests of the working people and which materializes the principle for meeting their independent demand and desire. This line reflects the firm stand of our party which, placing priority on the interests of the people, has resolutely struggled to meet these interests.

It is the consistent policy of our party to preferentially concentrate on solving food and clothing questions. In the initial stage of building a new society when the economic situation of the country was very difficult, our party first conducted a land revolution to solve food and clothing questions for the people and helped increase agricultural and light industrial production. During the postwar period when everything was reduced to ashes because of the war which had been forced by the U.S. imperialists, our party set forth a basic line for socialist economic construction -- one for simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture while preferentially developing heavy industry. In implementing this line, our party, while firmly guaranteeing the preferential growth of heavy industry, helped build not a heavy industry which only serves heavy industry but a heavy industry which can most effectively contribute to developing light industry and the rural economic sector, to solving serious food and clothing problems caused by the war, and to improving the people's living standard.

By concentrating on solidifying the rural economic sector and on inaugurating and developing a chuche-type vinalon industry with the acceleration of economic construction, it built a large number of textile plants everywhere and matchlessly strengthened the material and technical foundation for the rural economic sector and maritime industry. As a result, our country has sufficiently supplied rice at a low price -- which is almost equal to being free of charge -- and large quantities of textiles and fish to the people.

At the sixth party congress, our party set forth the task of epochally improving the people's living standard in the 1980's based on successes it had already attained. Following this congress, it first set forth the policy for the work of remodelling nature -- the work of reclaiming tideland. At the seventh plenary meeting of the sixth party Central Committee, it discussed and adopted the question of achieving the goal for 1.5 billion meters of textiles and a chemical goal. At the recent eighth plenary meeting of the sixth party Central Committee, it took a series of measures for achieving chemical and textile goals. In particular, by setting forth slogans reading "Rice Is Communism," our party has opened a bright prospect for completely solving food questions for the people and has wisely led the struggle to solve these questions. As a result, the people's living standard has daily increased and the long-cherished desire of the people for a better life -- for excellently feeding and clothing themselves -- has been fulfilled much more successfully.

At a time when many people have starved and frozen to death in various regions of the world, we cannot imagine the better life of our people free from all worries without the correct policy and leadership of our party, which has attached significance to food and clothing questions and which has made effort to provide the people with a happy life as far as these questions are concerned.

The party's line for first implementing communist policies in dealing with food and clothing questions has helped the people vigorously accelerate the construction of socialism and communism by further increasing their revolutionary zeal and creative positivism. The construction of socialism and communism is work carried out by the broad strata of the working people with an aim and awareness. Therefore, the ideological indoctrination of workers should be strengthened to successfully build socialist and communist society by accelerating the revolution and construction. What is important in this regard is to help workers correctly understand in principle the superiority of socialist and communist society through their practical daily life, in addition to strengthening indoctrination on the principle of socialism and communism.

The preferential implementation of communist policies in dealing with food and clothing questions help the people correctly understand through their practical daily life the superiority of socialist and communist society which devotes everything to the cause of making the people's life happy by helping them enjoy a better life in which they can successfully feed and clothe themselves by offering maximum conveniences to them in their daily life. Thus, all the people will positively struggle for the grateful socialist system and for the victory of the revolution with a firm belief in the justness of the cause of socialism and communism and in victory in this cause.

Today we are assigned the glorious task of achieving the goals for 15 million tons of grain, 1.5 billion meters of textiles, and 5 million tons of maritime products by accelerating socialist economic construction. When this task is completed, our country will magnificently reach the world level in the production of rice and textiles per capita, and our people will be supplied with large quantities of fish. All party members and workers should successfully achieve this militant task by vigorously waging the struggle to create the speed of the 1980's by showing endless loyalty to the party and the leader and by displaying the revolutionary fighting spirit of self-reliance. First of all, they should carry out the four nature remodelling projects and should vigorously struggle to meet the requirements of the chuche-farming method.

By carrying out the four nature remodelling projects set forth by the party, we should reclaim tideland on a large scale. By accelerating the construction of the Nampo Lockgate to solve water problems for tideland and of the Taechon Power Plant, we should increase the area of arable land and should epochally increase grain production.

The rural economic sector should accelerate overall mechanization and chemicalization and should thoroughly meet the requirements of the chuche farming method.

Attaining chemical and textile goals by implementing the decisions of the seventh and eighth plenary meetings of the sixth party Central Committee is of very important significance in improving the people's living standard. Only by rapidly developing chemical and light industries can we successfully solve food and clothing questions for the people.

The important thing in attaining chemical and textile goals is to increase the production of fibers. The construction sector should vigorously accelerate the construction of the large Sunchon vinalin plant. At the same time, it should increase the production capacity of the existing chemical plants. The light industry sector should raise production to a higher-level at all light industry plants by effectively utilizing the existing foundations and by smoothly supplying raw materials. By positively mobilizing and utilizing raw material resources, it should increase the items of daily necessity and improve the quality of these goods. Thus, it should sufficiently produce and supply various textiles and clothes to the people, meeting their tastes.

The struggle to smoothly solve food and clothing questions is sacred work for the prosperity of the country and for the happiness of the people. By vigorously accelerating this work in accordance with the intent of the party and the leader, we should further demonstrate the superiority of the socialist system of our country and should bring about new progress in building socialism and communism.

KONG CHIN-TAE, DELEGATION RETURN FROM BULGARIA

SK090419 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2203 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 9 (KCNA) -- The government delegation of our country headed by Vice-Premier Kong Chin-tae returned home on December 8 by plane after visiting Bulgaria to attend the 13th meeting of the inter-governmental economic and scientific-technological consultative committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Bulgarian People's Republic. The delegation had also visited Socialist Ethiopia as a DPRK government economic delegation.

It was met at the airport by Vice-Premier Chong Chun-ki, Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam, Angel Kozovski, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Bulgarian Embassy, and officials of the Soviet Embassy in the city.

YONHAP NOTES STRONGER U.S.-ROK RELATIONSHIP IN 1983

SK200130 Seoul YONHAP in English 0052 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Seoul, Dec 20 (YONHAP) -- The year 1983 has witnessed the bond of U.S.-South Korean alliance tested and strengthened in the face of major challenges -- the Soviet shooting down of a Korean airliner and the North Korean bombing attack in Rangoon on a visiting South Korean presidential delegation.

Seoul and Washington stood firmly together in coping with both tragedies and vigorously demonstrated their allied readiness to castigate such attacks.

The strong and growing alliance was then highlighted by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's state visit to South Korea in mid-November. Although the visit had been scheduled well before the Korean airliner incident and the Rangoon attack, it was made all the more timely as it came in the wake of the incidents.

On his arrival at Seoul's Kimpo International Airport, the U.S. leader said, "today, in a tense time of peace, we stand together as we once did in time of war. Our purpose is the same, our resolve unshaken."

Reagan's statements and activities during his three-day visit here left no doubt about Washington's firm resolve to defend South Korea against an increasingly belligerent enemy in the North. The U.S. leader braved the chilly late-autumn weather and North Korean threats on his life to visit the tense Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas. He was the first American president to visit the DMZ, although several U.S. presidents had visited American troops stationed north of Seoul during their visits to South Korea.

"There's no better proof of the relationship between strength and freedom than right here on the DMZ in Korea," Reagan told U.S. GI's guarding the inter-Korean border. "Its (North Korea's) attack against the leaders of the South Korean Government in Rangoon made clear what kind of enemy you face across the DMZ."

Reagan also recalled the murder of two U.S. Army officers near the DMZ in August 1976 by ax-wielding North Korean soldiers, and said, "Let me state for the record -- nothing like that better happen again."

In a joint communique summing up his Korea trip, Reagan said South Korean security is "vital" to the U.S. security, which, according to diplomatic and defense experts, meant that the United States does not rule out the use of nuclear weapons to defend South Korea. The communique also said, "President Reagan reconfirmed that the United States will continue to make available the weapons systems and technology necessary to enhance the strength of Korea's Armed Forces."

The implications of the Reagan trip, however, go far beyond the joint communique. The trip not only reaffirmed the sound alliance that exists between Seoul and Washington but also served as a clear warning to the North Korean leadership that any miscalculation on their part would be met with a swift joint retaliation by the two allies.

DAILY URGES U.S. TO LIFT IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

SK191243 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 19 Dec 83 p 2

[Editorial: "U.S. Reinforcement of Textile Import Restriction -- We Urge Lifting of Double Restriction Which Hampers Expansion of Trade Between the ROK and the United States"]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Administration's new "criteria for deciding when a presumption of market disruption exists," which is aimed at curbing import of textiles, has attracted our extraordinary attention in view of the fact that this will serve as a big factor hampering the expansion of trade between the ROK and the United States. A U.S. White House spokesman has disclosed a new 3-point criteria which can curb the export to the United States from major textile-exporting countries such as the ROK, Taiwan, and Red China.

It seems that the U.S. measure is aimed at curbing the large-scale import of textile goods from Red China. But, in the long run, this measure will inevitably affect even the ROK and Taiwan, whose export of textiles to the United States based on low wages occupies a large portion in their export volumes.

What we see as regrettable in this U.S. control of import of textiles is that a developed nation is taking the lead in building higher the barrier of protectionism, which runs counter to the spirit of free trade. Of course, it is against the spirit of GATT and the agreement of the Multilateral Textiles Negotiations. It also contradicts President Reagan's advocacy for promoting free trade.

If we limit this issue to ROK-U.S. relations, we feel all the more regret. Amid the increasing necessity of expanding trade between the two nations with U.S. President Reagan's visit to the ROK as momentum, it is a matter of common knowledge that the ROK side is showing its good faith in a concrete fashion in improving the relevant environment.

Some 85 percent of our total export of textiles to the United States is controlled by the volume quota system. The double control with an additional system affecting an item, which is already being controlled by one system, is intolerable in terms of international trade practice.

Needless to say, it is needed, on the contrary, to bring down the barrier of protectionism blocking the expansion of trade for the good of an expanded trade between the ROK and the United States.

Of course, we can understand that President Reagan, who will run for election next year, cannot ignore the pressure from U.S. textile makers. But, it should be noted that if 30 to 40 percent of duties is levied to protect makers, this will soon increase prices and evoke dissatisfaction from consumers. And, the U.S. iron and steel makers are demanding the reinforcement of import control is on iron and steel products. We hope that this also will be dealt with from the standpoint of expanding trade and protecting consumers.

Meanwhile, needless to say, in preparation against such a reinforcement of protectionist measures, our country should continue to push ahead with increasing quality of our products and diversifying products and markets.

We stress that the double regulative measures on our export of textiles to the United States, which will hamper the expansion of trade between the ROK and the United States, should be lifted.

REPORTAGE ANALYZES JAPAN'S DEC 18 DIET ELECTIONS

No Change in Relationship

SK200607 Seoul YONHAP in English 0600 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Seoul, Dec 20 (YONHAP) -- The outcome of Japan's Dec 18 Diet (parliament) elections will hardly exercise any influence on the current relationship between Korea and Japan, a senior South Korean Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday.

"Although Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's Liberal Democratic Party failed to retain the 286 seats that it formerly held in the lower house, Japan's foreign policy in post-election days will not change regarding its basic relationship with Korea," he said.

Post-Election Stability Hoped

SK200127 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] A Foreign Ministry official said yesterday it is desirable for Japanese politics to be stabilized but refused to comment further on the outcome of the Japanese general elections.

The government, he said, instructed the Korean Embassy in Tokyo to send a detailed report on the analysis of the elections. It will take time to study what impact the elections will have on Korean-Japanese relations, he said.

Meanwhile, some lawmakers made careful comments on the elections. Rep. Pak Kyong-sok of the ruling Democratic Justice Party said criticism against former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka may have adversely affected the Liberal Democratic Party. "However, I don't see any drastic change in Korean-Japanese relations because the Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party, which are growingly rightist-leaned, have added seats," he observed. Pak is the Seoul-side spokesman for the Korea-Japan Parliamentarians' League.

Rep. Ho Kyong-ku, a member of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee, said the election would cause a setback in the security cooperation between Japan and the United States. "This means the cooperation among Seoul, Washington and Tokyo could also be affected adversely."

Rep. Yi Man-sop of the Korea National Party, who is also a Foreign Affairs Committee member, commented that "the Japanese people's desire to prefer moral politics to monetary politics," seem to have affected the elections.

KOREA HERALD Editorial

SK200115 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Dec 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Japanese Elections"]

[Text] The sharp setbacks Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and his Liberal Democratic Party suffered in Sunday's Diet (parliament) elections has clouded the political future of the Japanese ruling party as well as the viability of Nakasone's personal leadership.

The performance of the conservative party at the polls was much less vigorous than expected and they failed to achieve even a simple majority of 256 in the 511-seat lower house. The Liberal Democrats went into the elections with 286 seats and came out retaining 250.

Vote tallies Monday afternoon showed that Prime Minister Nakasone's party fell far short of the 270-seat line required to control all committee chairmanships of the powerful House of Representatives. The centrist opposition Komeito (Clean Government Party) made significant gains, followed by a slight advance of the Socialist Party.

Although the loss of a dominating edge in the lower house does not necessarily mean an end to the 28-year-old grip of the Liberal Democrats on the reins of power, it seriously undermines the position of the ruling party already shaken by fierce factional dissension.

Observers view the party could probably scrape back to a bare parliamentary majority with help from some independents. Pledges of support have reportedly been won from seven of them. By bolstering its ranks and legislative voting strength, the party could stay afloat with about 260 seats in the lower chamber.

The latest Japanese election came at a wrong time and in an unfavorable setting for the ruling party. Freezing, inclement weather was blamed for the poor voter turnout of 68 percent, 5 percent less than in the last elections of 1980.

The conviction of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka for receiving payoffs in the Lockheed scandal had necessitated the premature and ill-timed election and subjected the Liberal Democratic Party to opposition and public outcries against "money politics" and for greater political ethics.

The fact that Nakasone became the first postwar incumbent prime minister to come out second to an ex-prime minister in the home district they share, with a few of his Cabinet ministers losing out, is also considered more than symbolic in damage to the prestige of the LDP leader.

Immediately after assuming the premiership in late 1982, he adopted forceful and imaginative foreign policies. Visiting Seoul and Washington to strengthen bilateral ties and cooperation, backed by a series of statements endorsing a stronger international and regional defense role of Japan, Nakasone won approval abroad but antagonized some Japanese who made their opposition to such "hawkishness" clearly known.

Prime Minister Nakasone's association with the Liberal Democratic Party's behind-the-scenes strongman Tanaka was indeed a liability to his popularity. However, it is intriguing, albeit ironic, to note that the scandal-ridden Tanaka won a landslide victory in his home district.

The bulk of Prime Minister Nakasone's legislative programs remain largely unfulfilled. They include proposed reforms of administrative, education and welfare systems. Trade friction with other nations is another major area to be addressed.

Leaders of the Liberal Democratic Party including Nakasone will have to close their ranks in the Diet and provide solid and sustained leadership for Japan, Asia and the world community, showing it is still a reliable partner to be reckoned with and ready to work effectively with its neighbors and allies.

DJP RULES OUT LIFTING POLITICAL BAN IN 1983

SK200055 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Kwangju -- A leading officer of the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) yesterday ruled out the possibility of lifting the ban imposed on former politicians within this year.

"I am not in a position to make a definite comment because only the President has the right to remove the ban. At any rate, removing the ban within this year appears to be impossible in view of the time left until the year's end," Rep. Kwon Ik-hyon, secretary general of the ruling party, told reporters.

Kwon's remark is a strong indication that the removal would be made early next year. The secretary general was here to attend a rally reorganizing a party chapter in this southwestern city.

He said it would be difficult to predict the "scale" of the lifting because the number of former politicians involved in the lifting could be determined taking into account various political and social changes which have been made.

"I understand the size could be determined within the category where it would not damage the political stability of the current Fifth Republic," he said. The government lifted the ban for 250 persons in February. There are about 300 persons who are still prohibited from conducting political activities for their involvement in the political confusion of the past.

Concerning rumors on early general elections, Kwon said the rumors are groundless. "There is no reason to advance the elections," he said.

During the rally, Rep. Koh Kwi-nam was elected chairman of the chapter. He succeeded Sim Sang-u who was one of the 17 fatal victims of the Rangoon incident of Oct. 9.

COMMANDER CONFERENCES URGE INCREASED READINESS

SK200235 Seoul YONHAP in English 0220 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 20 (YONHAP) -- The South Korean Army, Navy and Air Force held their respective commanders' conferences Tuesday and reaffirmed their readiness to repel any North Korean provocation.

The commanders analyzed the security situation on the Korean peninsula and concluded that North Korea is all the more bent on provoking the south with armed attacks because of its diplomatic isolation in the wake of the Oct. 9 bomb attack on a South Korean presidential delegation in Rangoon, conference sources said.

Speaking at Tuesday's meeting, Gen Chong Ho-yong, Army chief of staff, told Army field commanders to step up "war-like" training of their soldiers with a view to bolstering an "offensive-oriented" readiness, conference sources said. Chong said a comprehensive plan had been worked out to protect the capital area in case of a contingency.

At a separate meeting of naval commanders, meanwhile, a conference source said Admiral O Kyong-hwan, chief of naval operations, noted that the North Korean Navy has bolstered its war capability by increasing the number of missile-mounted warships this year. The situation calls for increased vigilance on the part of the South Korean Navy, he said.

Meanwhile, sources said, Air Force commanders, including Chief of Staff Gen Kim Sang-tae, resolved to establish air superiority over North Korea next year and maintain around-the-clock vigilance to repel any North Korean intrusions into South Korean airspace immediately.

The added precautions are necessary to halt possible North Korean military action designed to recoup diplomatic losses caused by the Rangoon bomb blast, the commanders said.

Burma and Costa Rica served diplomatic ties with Pyongyang in retaliation for its bomb attack. Four Burmese and 17 prominent South Koreans died when a bomb, planted by North Korean military officers, ripped through the Martyr's Mausoleum in the Burmese capital a few minutes before President Chon Tu-hwan was to arrive for a wreath-laying ceremony. The action led a number of western nations, including Japan and the United States, to take diplomatic sanctions against North Korea. France and other countries have condemned the communist regime for its terrorist act.

FOREIGN MINISTER URGES CHINA TO RESTRAIN NORTH

SK200122 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Yi Won-Kyong said yesterday mainland China should make substantive efforts to prevent North Korea from heightening tension on the Korean peninsula instead of merely speaking for the Pyongyang regime.

Briefing reporters on the results of his recent trip to six countries, he said he asked Japan and the United States to urge China to exercise its influence on north Korea to secure peace on the peninsula when he met with Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Yi returned to Seoul Sunday from his three-week tour of Japan, the United States, Mexico, Chile, Peru and Argentina. He attended Argentine President Raul Alfonsin's inauguration ceremony as President Chon Tu-hwan's special envoy.

Yi's remarks were in reference to remarks made by Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang when he visited Tokyo last month that North Korea neither intends nor has the ability to attack the south.

Yi said China probably does not want increased tension on the peninsula but that it is north Korea which threatens stability and peace on the peninsula. "China should act to exercise its substantive influence on Pyongyang for peace on the peninsula."

Shultz, he said, agreed to seek better terms of Foreign Military Sales (FMS) credits to Korea in consultations with the U.S. Congress. Shultz was further quoted as saying the U.S. Administration will try to keep Korea on the list of countries receiving the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) on their exports to the United States. Yi and Shultz also discussed other follow-up measures to President Ronald Reagan's visit to Korea last month, the foreign minister said.

Latin American countries, he said, want to increase economic cooperation with Korea and learn from the Korean policy of sustaining economic growth while concurrently reducing inflation. Although Korea's trade with those countries is not yet significant, he said, Korea should make further efforts to increase exports to the Latin American region. Since Korea has begun to import oil and iron ore from the region, he said, Korean exports to Latin American countries should increase.

Yi said in a press conference upon returning to Kimpo Sunday the Republic of Korea will continue to wage its diplomatic campaign against North Korea for the bomb attack in Rangoon. "North Korean terrorist acts are disrupting peace on the Korea peninsula," he said. "Our diplomatic campaign against North Korea will continue until the Pyongyang regime shows, through its actions, that it is determined to abide by international rules."

BODY OF NORTH'S SPY RECOVERED AT TADAEP0

SK200326 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0200 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Today, the counterinfiltration Operation Command [CIOC] announced that the body of an armed spy of the puppet North, a spy who was on board the puppet North's spy boat which was sunk by our navy while attempting to infiltrate the Tadaepo Coast on 3 December, was recovered. According to the CIOC, Mr Yu Song-su, 43, a resident, found a man's body in the sea near Tadaepo beach at 1740 hours yesterday afternoon and reported this to the authorities. The body was identified as that of a guiding operative aboard the sunken armed spy boat on the grounds that the clothes and belongings of the dead man were identical to those of the captured spies.

The CIOC announced that the man, believed to be around 27 years old and to be about 180 cm tall, was recovered with bullet wounds in his chest and femoral region and his left arm and leg had been cut. The CIOC further made public that the man wore waterproof clothes made in the puppet North and work clothes and possessed a Soviet-made stopwatch on the back on which were carved the numerals 313, indicating the No 313 Maritime Liaison Office of Wonsan.

APPEALS COURT UPHOLDS CHINESE HIJACKERS SENTENCES

SK200816 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Seoul, Dec 20 (YONHAP) -- An appeals court Tuesday upheld the sentences ranging from four to six years in prison that were handed down to six Chinese hijackers last August. In rejecting the appeals made on behalf of Zhuo Chang-ren and five others, presiding Judge Kim Sok-su said that the hijackers' "search for freedom" cannot override the safety of civil aviation. He said the lower court's verdict was appropriate in light of the charges the six defendants faced.

The six hijacked an airliner of China's Civil Aviation Administration to South Korea last May in a bid to defect to Taiwan. The plane was on a domestic flight from the northeastern city of Shenyang to Shanghai with more than 100 people aboard. The plane's co-pilot was wounded when the hijackers shot their way into the cockpit. Under South Korean law, the defendants will have seven days to appeal the higher court's decision to the Supreme Court. Legal experts said, however, that the Supreme Court was not likely to change the verdict because its primary function is to review the legal aspects of the appeals court's decision.

In upholding the lower court's verdict Tuesday, the presiding judge suggested, however, that it is now up to the Seoul Government to decide whether to grant leniency to the convicted defendants. "The only authority that can grant leniency to the defendants is the Korean Government. You can now count on its humanitarian deliberations," the judge said.

During the lower and appeals court trials, Zhuo and his five accomplices said that they had hijacked the plane to seek political asylum in Taiwan. They were planning to proceed to Taiwan after a refueling stop in South Korea, the defendants said. Court sources said one option the South Korean Government can exercise with regard to the Chinese hijackers is to send them to Taiwan by "expelling" them from Korea after a pro forma conviction. As it stands now, the sources said, such an action would have to await the Supreme Court trial as the defendants, who pleaded innocent to the court charges, are not likely to submit to the appeals court's decision.

KUFNCD NATIONAL COUNCIL'S THIRD PLENUM CLOSES

Heng Samrin Address

BK161443 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 15 Dec 83

[KPRP Central Committee General Secretary Heng Samrin's 15 December address to the Third Plenum of the KUFNCD National Council in Phnom Penh -- recorded]

[Text] On behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of State and in my capacity as the chairman of the honorary presidium of the KUFNCD National Council, I would like to express profound thanks to the plenum and make the following points:

The fourth party congress clearly pointed out that the revolution is the cause of the masses. The party should have plans to build the true political strength in a broad manner everywhere in the localities, regarding this as an undertaking of strategic significance to the revolutionary cause. Cadres at all levels should set schedules for field work so as to directly grasp the true situation; listen to the opinion of the masses; and pick up the results of the implementation of our party's and state's policies. The front should further promote the national defense and reconstruction objectives in order to muster, rally, and unite the entire people and hold authentic patriotism, love for the people, the proletarian internationalist solidarity as the principles for the expansion and strengthening of the solidarity bonds of the entire people and the worker-peasant alliance as the foundation. The front should incessantly broaden, consolidate, and expand itself and adopt policies suitable for each stratum of people.

The trade unions, youth associations, women's associations, and solidarity groups for production are core organizations of the front; the party is also a member and leading core of the front.

The duty of the mass organizations is to agitate and organize the masses, encourage them to carry out all policies of the party and state, and submit all views and desires of the masses to the party and state institutions concerned.

All party organizations should pay close attention to leading, assisting, and creating favorable conditions for these mass organizations to carry out their tasks. The authorities at all levels should maintain close relations with the mass organizations so as to grasp the aspirations of the people. It is the duty of the authorities to provide methods that will enable the front and mass organizations to perform their work well. The authorities must also examine and cope with all requests and needs of the people in an appropriate and timely manner.

I am extremely proud, as I have noted, that over the past 5 years our mass organizations, particularly the front -- which is a broad political organization -- have strengthened and expanded their role, bravely overcoming tens of thousands of complicated obstacles and difficulties to contribute actively to the cause of the revolution and people.

Because the front organizations have rallied all strata of the masses and people in a powerful struggle and thanks also to the assistance of friends near and far, especially our Vietnamese and Lao friends, we have been able, in a united manner, to smash the genocidal Pol Pot regime, liberate the nation and people, and achieve the victory of 7 January 1979.

The party and government have noted the seething and enthusiastic activities of the front over the past 5 years. [applause] The party and government recognize that all successes won by our new regime are closely linked with the sacred achievements of the front at all levels, which forever holds aloft the banner of national unity, proletarian internationalist solidarity, and authentic patriotism and is determined to defend and build our beautiful fatherland.

Dear comrades: As you know, the revolutionary undertakings do not stop merely after we have achieved revolutionary gains. The task of safeguarding the revolutionary gains remains an ongoing one which usually encounters many difficulties. This calls for all forces of the masses and people to sharpen their will and determination and vigorously enhance the national unity and proletarian internationalist solidarity in order to overcome all eventual obstacles we will face. For this reason, the duty of all state institutions, particularly the front, under the correct leadership of the KPRP, should further raise their revolutionary spirit so as to carry out all revolutionary requirements in each stage through the period of transition toward socialism. [applause]

As for all comrades in charge of front assignments at all levels, through the experience of the past 5 years you should understand that for the immediate future, the new, immense task of the front is to make every effort to bring success to the three strategic targets of the sixth meeting of the party Central Committee and to the work objectives for the coming year of the front by surmounting all past shortcomings and further strengthening and developing the front's effective achievements. The front should firmly grasp and excellently implement its role and tasks by cooperating closely with all revolutionary forces in order to promote the three revolutionary movements within the masses and people and to correctly submit the legitimate aspirations and demands of the people to the party and authorities.

The front should always disseminate guidance and directives among the masses and people through various forms so they can better understand all the perfidious maneuvers of the Beijing expansionist-hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other international reactionary forces.

The front should also see to it that the hatred and anger of our people for the genocidal gang of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan, Son Sann, and Sihanouk remain vividly seething; that the masses and people make a clear distinction between friend and foe; and that they clearly see the purity and beauty of our new regime, firmly grasping the fact that the revolution has certainly brought profit to all working masses and people along with the necessity to strengthen national unity and international solidarity, particularly with Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, other fraternal socialist countries, and the peace-loving peoples of the world.

The front at all levels, both provincial and municipal, should pay attention to maintaining good relations and good cooperation between the authorities and the mass organizations. The front should pay greater attention to the Buddhist monks, the minority groups, and the intelligentsia by seeking ways to create suitable conditions for the masses and people from all strata to serve the revolutionary tasks wholeheartedly and have constant trust and hope in our party and state.

The front National Council should have regular programs to visit the localities in all regions, particularly the remote areas, districts, communes, and villages so as to grasp the desires and living conditions of our people.

The front at all levels should correctly implement the 4 commemorative days of the front and continue to implement the five goods and avoid the five bads. The front should enhance the movement to enable cadres and the masses to follow a revolutionary lifestyle and observe such revolutionary ethics as patience, restraint, industriousness, simplicity, and thrift. The front should pay attention to cooperating with the authorities at all levels and assisting the women's, youth, and trade union organizations.

Through what I have just said, I am firmly confident that all of you will spare no effort or ability in fulfilling tasks for the party and people and will achieve even greater successes in the future in the revolutionary cause to build and defend our Kampuchean fatherland. [applause]

Chea Sim Report

BK170904 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1122 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 16 -- Delegates to the Third Plenum of the National Council of the United Front for the Kampuchean Fatherland currently held in Phnom Penh have heard a report on the front's activities since its formation and on tasks for the coming period.

The report, made by National Council Chairman Chea Sim, recalled the main events in the existence of the front: Its founding congress on December 2, 1978, when the line was laid down for the struggle to save the country from the genocidal clique of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and Khieu Samphan; the second congress in September the following year, at which steps were taken to strengthen national unity for the overcoming of the aftermath of genocide; and the third congress on December 22, 1981 when the front made public a 10-point political programme to mobilize the entire people in construction and defence efforts and for the gradual transition to socialism. The report expresses gratitude for Vietnam's effective and timely assistance in the struggle to overthrow the Pol Pot clique. "The Communist Party, the Army and the people of Vietnam gave us a new lease of life.... The great services of the heroic Army volunteers from Vietnam who are still fighting for our security and peaceful life will be engraved forever in our hearts," the report says.

"We take this opportunity," the reports continues, "to express our profound respect and admiration to the mothers and wives of Vietnamese combatants and experts for their willingness to help us. We treasure the noble feelings of these mothers and wives who have made so great contributions to the construction and defence of our country."

Chairman Chea Sim further said in his report: "We will remember the assistance given by the Communist Party, the government and the fraternal people of the Soviet Union in every aspect of the construction of our country. We will remember the continuing assistance of the fraternal socialist countries."

After thanking for the support and assistance of the many international organizations, Chea Sim said: "Our greatest desire is to join in the struggle for peace and life and against nuclear war. Our people support the struggles against colonialism and neo-colonialism waged by other peoples in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and by all progressive people in the world. Our people pledge to preserve the bonds of solidarity and cooperation among the three Indochinese countries, for peace and security in this region. We are firmly opposed to China's hegemonist, expansionist policy and to the Khmer traitors, and we are determined to defend and rebuild our motherland and to take it gradually to socialism. For the sake of security in Southeast Asia, we want to have relations of friendship and peace with the ASEAN countries."

In outlining tasks for the coming period Chairman Chea Sim dwelt at length on the necessity to strengthen solidarity among the three Indochinese countries and solidarity with the socialist community as a whole. He said:

"We know that our friends are the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, and all other forces of progress in the world. We are determined to preserve and promote our solidarity and cooperation with the Vietnamese people," Chea Sim stressed and quoted party General Secretary Heng Samrin as saying on the occasion of the 32d anniversary of the PRPK that "Solidarity with the people and the Communist Party of Vietnam is vital to the Kampuchean people and a law governing the development of the Khmer nation."

Chea Sim continued: "We will step up activities of friendship and cooperation in the international arena so as to increase the strength of our revolution by making clear our people's desire to live in peace, friendship and cooperation with other peoples. We must strongly condemn to the international community the schemes hatched by our enemies the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists and their henchmen-against our independence and against the alliance of the three Indochinese countries.

"Addresses have also been made by representatives of the Armed Forces, workers, peasants, the youth, women, intellectuals, the clergy, minority ethnic groups, the population of Phnom Penh, and other towns and provinces."

Chea Sim Closing Address

BK190518 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Closing speech by Chea Sim, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, and chairman of the National Assembly and the KUFNCD National Council, at the Third Plenum of KUFNCD National Council on 17 December -- recorded]

[Text] The Third Plenum of the KUFNCD National Council -- held in Phnom Penh 15-17 December -- has concluded successfully. The meeting's resolution is a factor for increasing unity among the entire people and is a new guarantee for our people in their advance under the astute leadership of the KPRP.

It is true that the plenum's resolution pointed out the great victories won through the strength of our people's unity during the past 5 years. However, we still face many difficulties because our enemies -- the Chinese Beijing hegemonist clique and its lackeys Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan, Sihanouk, and Son Sann -- are still continuing to carry out poisonous activities in an attempt to use Kampuchea as a stepping stone in their expansion into Southeast Asia and bring back the danger of genocide to our Kampuchean people. Therefore, our Kampuchean people's struggle against the enemies is a persistent, complex, and resolute one.

Along with the worsening situation in the world -- caused by U.S. imperialism's policy of increasing the risk of nuclear war and the arms race in every region -- our people have the common duty with the world's people to support the Soviet Union's ideals as expressed by Comrade Yuriy Andropov on 24 November [applause]. Our people and the world are determined to oppose nuclear war [applause]. Faced with this situation, our people must increase unity, be unanimous in one ideal under the banner of the KUFNCD, vigorously advance the three revolutionary movements, increase the real revolutionary force to build the People's Armed Forces and security forces, struggle to build the country economically, culturally, and in the public health sector, improve the people's living standards in order to bring about development, both spiritual and physical, and the revolutionary stand, and pledge to win over the enemies to defend the glorious Kampuchean fatherland [applause] .

After the plenum, we call on the comrade representatives to widely propagate the third plenum' resolution among every locality and at every level of our people, promote the emulation movement to welcome the fifth anniversary of our front, and strengthen unity in building and defending the fatherland in each unit and locality.

Finally, we would like to thank the comrade leaders of the party and state, national and international guests of honor, the comrade front leaders at provincial and municipal levels, the comrade representatives of various mass organizations, representatives of all levels of people and every religion, and representatives of the People's Armed Forces and security forces who have contributed to making our plenum achieve brilliant successes [applause]. We declare the KUFNCD National Council's Third Plenum closed. [applause]

Leaders Attend Plenum Close

BK181048 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] At 0730 this morning, the KUFNCD National Council solemnly closed its third plenum at the Chattomuk Conference Hall after 2 days of fruitful and successful work. Present in the presidium were, among others, Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee, chairman of the Council of State, and chairman of the Honorary Presidium of the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Central Organization Commission, and vice chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of national defense, and vice chairman of the KUFNCD National Council; and Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of planning. Also attending were party, state, and mass organization leaders of various central ministries and departments, and representatives of provincial and municipal front committees from all over the country and the diplomatic corps and attaches of friendly countries accredited to Kampuchea.

After Comrade Men Chhan, member of the Council of State and vice chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, read the resolution of the third KUFNCD National Council Plenum, Comrade Yos Por, secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council, read a document supporting the resolutions of the 1st National Assembly's fifth Session. Venerable Tep Vong, vice chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council, then read the KUFNCD National Council's greetings to frontline combatants and Comrade Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State and vice chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, read decisions conferring banners, certificates, and letters of commendation to provincial and municipal front committees and various front offices which stood out in implementing front duties in the past. On the same occasion, the presidium conferred souvenir banners of the Council of Ministers, work performance banners of the KUFNCD National Council, and certificates and letters of commendation on a number of offices and units for outstanding performance in the past 5 years.

On the occasion of this solemn closing ceremony, Comrade Chea Sim called on all delegates to help disseminate the resolution of the third plenum broadly and deeply among the people from all walks of life, to whip up a movement of emulation to welcome the fifth anniversary of the front, and to strengthen the forces of unity for national reconstruction and defense in each unit and each locality.

Heng Samrin on KUFNCD Success

BK190329 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Text] To hail the success of the KUFNCD National Council's Third Plenum, a solemn reception was organized by the KUFNCD National Council at the Bassac festival hall in the evening of 17 December. Attending the reception were, among others, Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee, chairman of the Council of State, and honorary chairman of the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, and chairman of the National Assembly and the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Central Organizational Department, and vice chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, member of the Council of State, and defense minister; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and planning minister many other members of the plenum, and representatives, observers, and leaders of the party and state from various central institutions. Diplomats of friendly countries accredited to Kampuchea were also present.

Speaking at the solemn luncheon, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin called on every member to make efforts to fully implement the resolution of the KUFNCD National Council's Third Plenum which has just ended and make particular efforts to achieve the essence of the PRK motto which is independence, peace, freedom, and happiness.

KUFNCD National Council's Resolution

BK181402 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Resolution of the Third KUFNCD National Council Plenum read by Men Chhan, vice chairman of the KUFNCD National Council -- recorded]

[Text] From 15-17 December 1983, the Third KUFNCD National Council Plenum took place in Phnom Penh at a time when the combatants and people throughout the country were enthusiastically implementing the three movements to welcome and celebrate the 5th founding anniversary of the renaissance of the Kampuchean fatherland. Greeting the fifth anniversary on a firm stand of progress, the plenum hailed and correctly valued the achievements made by our front in national reconstruction and defense over the past 5 years and formulated the tasks of the front for 1984.

The plenum was pleased to note that the victories won by our revolution during the past 5 years have brought about development in all fields. In fact, we have solved the problem of the livelihood of the people to the point that each family in every commune and village now has sufficient food for consumption; each family member has enough rice to eat and proper clothes to wear; the children can go to school; all have the freedom of religious practice; and the sick receive medical care. Phnom Penh now is inhabited by more than 500,000 people living happily to build the capital and the fatherland. Our fatherland and people are certainly reborn. All are implementing the noble tasks of building and defending national independence and rebuilding the fatherland step by step through the period of transition in the advance toward socialism.

Regarding our foreign policy, we have good relations of friendship and cooperation with Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, progressive countries, and countries now fighting for national liberation in the world. These relations are developing steadily. We have expressed the single-minded desire of the Kampuchean people: to coexist in peace, friendship, and cooperation.

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of our fatherland's victory, our people in no way forget the immense service rendered by the Vietnamese party, state, people, and Army volunteers who helped and are helping our people at the cost of their lives to defend and build our fatherland and safeguard the happiness and security of our Kampuchean people. We remain grateful forever to all socialist countries, international organizations, friends near and far, and progressive people in the world and other countries for according the Kampuchean people both material and moral assistance, thus ensuring the growth of the Kampuchean revolution.

Our enemies -- namely the Beijing expansionist-hegemonists in collusion with U.S. imperialism and the reactionaries within ASEAN with Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan, Sihanouk, and Son Sann as their stooges -- have attempted in vain to return to Kampuchea and once again control our country. For this reason, they have propped up a tripartite coalition government which, in reality, is a disguised Pol Pot regime and in which the three factions are engaged in a bitter power struggle. Recently, our Revolutionary Armed Forces won many successes. In particular, they smashed the camps of the traitors along the Kampuchean-Thai border. As for the enemies' maneuvers to create two zones in Kampuchea, it has also failed most bitterly. In the political field, they created differences between the ASEAN group and the three Indochinese countries; but, they were unmasked and denounced by progressive international opinion. In sum, all their perfidious tricks and designs were foiled. On the contrary, the PRK is gaining resounding prestige with each passing day both at home and in the international arena. Under the leadership of the KPRP, the front is now 5 years old. As a factor for the force of solidarity bringing a new history to our people, the front has been through three congresses. Each congress stressed the aspiration for national unity and authentic socialist international solidarity of our people.

The significance of the victories won in the past 5 years is extremely far-reaching. This opens new chapters of history for our nation and accords with the law of evolution in the era of independence, democracy, and socialism in which all nations must coexist in peace and cooperation.

The past 5 years constitute a short period in the history of a country that has been through so serious a genocidal destruction. It is almost inconceivable that such a country could have achieved such rapid, all-round successes. However, thanks to the trust and confidence of the people in our party, state, and front, we have been able to achieve such immense and pride-inspiring successes. The influence of the front is growing to the hope and confidence of our people.

Implementing all the objectives and lines of the party, the front at all levels must steadfastly preserve and correctly implement its role by cooperating with all organizations in strengthening the force of solidarity of the whole people and enthusiastically intensifying the three revolutionary movements throughout the country with the sole objective of building and defending the fatherland. At the same time, the front must gather the legitimate aspirations demands of the people and submit them to the party and state.

In 1984, our people must implement the following 10-point political program:

1. The front at all levels must cooperate with the authorities and mass organizations in disseminating and explaining to the people the obligation of having a sense of patriotism, trust, and confidence in the revolution and hatred against the enemies and the tripartite coalition government; implementing well the three revolutionary movements; and enhancing solidarity between Kampuchea and Vietnam, among the three Indochinese countries, and with the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and progressive organizations in the world.

2. During the 1st quarter of 1984, the front must hold front committee meetings at all levels in the provinces and cities, convening representatives of the people from all walks of life and front combatants to study the front's activities over the past 5 years. The front must organize regular lifestyle meetings every month, assist the families of disabled and fallen combatants and the families of combatants on mission, and help production solidarity groups expand themselves so that the economic plan for 1984 is overfulfilled.
3. The front must pay attention to maintaining relations and strengthening cooperation with state and mass organizations at all levels by sharing the same views in the implementation of revolutionary tasks in the localities.
4. The front must pay attention to maintaining relations and strengthening cooperation with religious circles, ethnic groups, and intellectuals, helping them to clearly grasp the party line; must strengthen their conscience and love for the nation and socialism and their solidarity and unity in the tasks of building and defending the fatherland; and must preserve the legitimate aspirations of these organizations.
5. The front National Council and front committees at all levels must work out schedules for frequent visits to the localities, even the remotest areas, to assess the legitimate desires of the local people; try to understand their living conditions; and submit these desires to the party and state.
6. The front must promote friendly activities with foreign countries, for the sake of socialist international solidarity and with progressive nations in the world; must promote the movement of struggle for peace and life against nuclear war created by U.S. imperialism and other international reactionaries in the world; must observe the 4 commemorative days of the front; and must help the people build steles marking 20 May, the day of the people's hatred against the genocidal Pol Pot Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan regime.
7. The front and the authorities must assist mass organizations, trade unions, youth associations, and women's associations -- particularly the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Union -- so that they can be established down to the grassroots levels.
8. The front must strengthen the offices and departments of the KUFNCD National Council and must set up front committees in all provinces, cities, districts, and communes in accordance with the new regulations so that they can perform their work as assigned at all levels.
9. The front National Council must accelerate the emulation movement in 1984 and 1985 and carry out well the three revolutionary movements and other emulation movements to mark the 5th founding anniversary of the front at all provincial and municipal levels and in all organizations.
10. The front National Council must appeal to all organizations and the people to observe the five goods and avoid the five bads in accordance with the resolution of the third congress of the front and steadfastly adhere to the lifestyle of revolutionaries by upholding patience, industriousness, simplicity, humility, truth, thrift, and cleanliness in accordance with the resolution of the party Central Committee's sixth meeting.

AIR FORCE COMMANDER ON F-16 PURCHASE PLAN

BK200146 Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 20 Dec 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Air Chief Marshal Praphan Thupatemi, commander of the Royal Thai Air Force [RTAF] told reporters of a plan to purchase F-16 jet fighters. Speaking to reporters on the night of 19 December, the Air Force commander said the F-16's will replace F-5's currently used by the RTAF. The RTAF wants and has decided to buy the new fighter and is in the process of studying their capabilities. Earlier, General Dynamics, the manufacturer, had provided the RTAF with information about the aircraft. However, he added that the purchase must first be approved by the U.S. Congress. A squadron of F-16's costs about 12 billion baht.

FIVE TRAWLERS REPORTEDLY SEIZED BY VIETNAM

BK200144 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Vietnam has seized five Thai trawlers with 125 crewmen, a Samut Sakhon Radio Centre official said yesterday. Two Vietnamese vessels fired on the trawlers Mitphaibun, Phong-charoen, Chokemongkol, Samuttrachai and Chatchamongkhon 18 nautical miles north of Panyang Island. Six other Thai trawlers in the fleet fled back into Thai waters, the official said.

SENIOR BANGLADESH MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK200305 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 CMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] His Excellency Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, Bangladesh deputy chief martial law administrator, chief of air staff and minister for energy and mineral resources, arrived in Bangkok yesterday evening for a 3-day visit to Thailand to strengthen bilateral relations. As the guest of the Thai Government, Sultan Mahmud will meet Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon this afternoon at Government House. Early in the morning, he will also meet Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek and will later call on Air Force Commander-in-chief Air Chief Marshal Praphan Thupatemi.

On Thursday, Sultan Mahmud is scheduled to meet Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Savetsila and Minister of Science, Technology and Energy Damrong Latthaphiphat. He also has planned to observe several industrial and economic activities in Thailand.

ARMY CONSIDERS PATHOMPHONG RESIGNATION INVALID

BK170250 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Dec 83 p 16

[Text] Major Pathomphong Kesonsuk's resignation letter was invalid, Army spokesman Maj-Gen Narudon Detpradiyut said last night. The spokesman said Maj Pathomphong could not submit a resignation letter to the Defence Ministry's permanent Secretary Office as the Army still considered the officer under its control.

Even if he submitted the letter to his original Fourth Army Region unit, he would not be allowed to resign because he was now under investigation for alleged desertion.

Maj-Gen Narudon said: "The Fourth Army Region will go on with the investigation proceedings to take disciplinary action against him."

VOFA COMMENTARY ON KAMPUCHEAN RESISTANCE EFFORT

BK170608 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1230 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Station commentary: "This New Dry Season Will Never Be the Same in Kampuchea"]

[Text] The cold spell has arrived in Kampuchea from north Asia ending the 6-month rainy season. In that unfortunate country, both the Vietnamese troops and the Kampuchean resistance forces of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea have been preparing for a new dry season of fighting, however, with entirely different purposes. The Vietnamese military machine will once again be trying to subjugate the Kampuchean nationalists in order to further the Vietnamese Government's design in that neighboring country which began in Christmas 1978 when large numbers of Vietnamese troops which total 200,000 men invaded Kampuchea. Their grand design was and still is to completely subjugate the Khmer nation under the Vietnamese yoke.

The Khmer nationalist resistance forces, however, have been fighting an entirely different war. Their stake is the precious independence and sovereignty of their ancient nation which for the past 5 years has been [word indistinct] the threat of complete Vietnamization. At a glance, the new round of dry-season fighting is nothing more than an ordinary phenomenon erupting following a national enforced cease-fire. At a closer look [it] reveals a new chapter of the protracted war in this unfortunate country. All indicators confirm that the Vietnamese have been lately on the defensive despite their formidable number of 180,000 troops well equipped with Soviet arms. Actually in this newly begun dry season, it was the Khmer resistance forces which struck first, causing considerable damage and casualties on the Vietnamese side. Even the Sihanoukist forces considered to be the weakest among the three factions of the CGDK have also scored a series of impressive military victories over the Vietnamese occupation forces stuck in their base camps, not able to move freely waiting for the ground to dry completely.

Meanwhile, the Khmer resistance forces are now adding to their strength a new dimension of public relations capability. Today they have begun broadcasting the Voice of the Khmer People from their 100-kilowatt shortwave mobile radio station. With its 6-hour broadcast program, the Khmer resistance forces will be able to enhance their political campaign against the Vietnamese occupation troops and their client Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh. This additional factor will contribute crucially to the war's outcome. Once Kampuchean learn that Khmer nationalists under Prince Norodom Sihanouk are fighting to liberate the country, more Kampuchean patriots will surely join hands with the anti-Vietnamese forces whose bases are scattered in the rugged jungles and hills along the western and northwestern sections of the country. Just 2 months ago several thousands Kampuchean people fled Vietnamese atrocities and suppression to join the Khmer resistance bases giving the lie to the Vietnamese authorities' boast of popular support.

Turning away from the battlefield, three joint information offices have been opened by the Khmer nationalists in New York, Strasbourg, and Brussels. Tokyo and Canberra are soon to be added to the list. Their major task is to inform the international public of the ongoing situation and the genuine cause of the Kampuchean conflict. Particularly in Brussels, which houses the headquarters of the European Common Market, the first issue of the Voice of the Kampuchean Nationalists' monthly magazine just came out containing articles, messages, and press clippings in four languages -- Dutch, English, French and Khmer. Quite certainly this new dry season will never be the same in Kampuchea.

LE DUAN ADDRESSES CPV CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

OW150911 Hanoi VNA in English 0804 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Quotes as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 15 -- To bring into full play the peoples collective mastery and make full use of the nations aggregate strength so as to bring about a deep socio-economic change is the gist of an important speech made by Le Duan at the recent Fifth Plenum of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee.

The party general secretary said:

The progress we have already made stems from the correct line which was set at the fourth party congress and elaborated at the fifth party congress and which has been understood even more clearly and applied in keeping with the practical situation.

Another factor-which is also very important-is the renovation of economic management including economic planning and incentive policies. This renovation, though still in its initial stage, has stimulated the working people in their production efforts and encouraged all the levels and branches, especially the localities and grass-roots units, to strongly promote their spirit of initiative and their creativeness in exploiting the country's economic potentials.

Le Duan said that: The achievements recorded were the results of the efforts and aggregate strength of the whole country and of a broad mass movement for creative labour, that [as received] all localities and grassroots have made considerable efforts, all branches at the centre, from agriculture to industry, from production to the distribution and circulation of goods and transport, have also made commendable efforts.

Our achievements, Le Duan said, also stem from the international cooperation and assistance of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries.

He said: The basic lesson we can draw from our past performance is how to exercise our right to collective mastery and use our combined strength.

We have taken our economy through the decline resulting from the upheavals of 1979-1980, gradually stabilized it and taken it forward step by step. However, great difficulties still lie ahead of us, in production, in the distribution and circulation of goods, and in everyday life.

These difficulties, Le Duan said, stem from a predominant small production, from the aftermath of long years of war in the past and from the multi-faceted war of sabotage and economic fields. While advancing on the (?basis) of small production, we have to carry out two major strategic tasks building socialism and defending the homeland. In building socialism, we have to meet the people's needs in daily life and at the same time accumulate for the nation's industrialization. This is the root cause of all difficulties. So long as we do not have large-scale production and big industry, difficulties will remain, and great at that.

That is actually the reason why output, the quality of products and economic efficiency have not been raised quickly and the working people's life has not been significantly improved. As socialist industrialization plays a key role, we must be resolved to achieve it if we are to forge ahead mightily.

Le Duan said: We must also size up our subjective shortcomings. These shortcomings result from our failure to fully grasp the party's line and policies, and the ruthless character of the struggle between us and the enemy, as well as between the two roads—socialism and capitalism. These are also shortcomings in the process of renovating the mechanism of management and planning although socio-economic management is no child's play.

Le Duan said: All levels, all branches must, on the one hand, be severe toward their own errors and shortcomings and, on the other hand, understand that, in such a critical, even dangerous, situation as at present, the fact that our economy still holds firm and is even making headway, is an achievement we may be proud of and should reaffirm so as to advance steadily.

Le Duan then spoke of the need of controlling the manpower and land resources of the country, of making full use of the workforce of 27 million people, seven million hectares of crop land, twelve million hectares of forests [as received] land and nearly 13 million hectares of untitled soil, developing agriculture in all fields, first of all food production, firmly solving the food problem and at the same time expanding the acreage of short-term as well as perennial industrial plants and boosting stockbreeding. Along with agricultural development, industry must be developed proportionately, especially the manufacturing industry, with the aim of producing more industrial goods for domestic consumption and export.

So, the party general secretary went on, in this initial stage, even before the appearance of large-scale industry, if we know how to use the manpower and land resources, we could take our economy to large-scale production and satisfy the most essential needs in food, textile, housing, education, and medical care of our people, while gradually accumulating for industrialization and ensuring the fundamental needs of national defence.

Le Duan went on:

The system of collective mastery must be observed at all the three levels: In the whole country, in each locality (province city, precinct, and district) and at the grassroots (villages and agricultural cooperations, unions of enterprises and individual factories...) and according to the common mechanism in which the party is the leader, the people are masters and the state is the manager.

Collective mastery on a national scale forms a single entity of which each locality and each unit is a component. The national economy is a unified system of which the local economies are integral parts."

Le Duan continued:

In order to speed up agricultural development, we must develop the key industries such as electricity, coal, gas and oil, engineering, metallurgy, chemicals, building materials, communications and transport. This demands a large capital, which comes from our transactions and cooperation with other countries and also from the contribution of the entire people.

Le Duan then dealt with the planning of the national economy, stressing that it had to be carried out at all the central, local and grassroots levels.

About socialist transformation, Le Duan said:

"The delay in socialist transformation in recent years has adversely affected the tempo of economic construction and development. We should clearly realize that the socialist economy must hold absolute predominance in industry, agriculture as well as in commerce.

We must strive to basically complete by the end of 1985 agricultural cooperation in southern Vietnam in three forms: the solidarity production group, the production collective and the agricultural cooperative.

It is necessary to immediately abolish private capitalist commerce and transform private capitalist industry in suitable forms, reorganize small industry and handicrafts, and re-arrange small trade along with streamlining the network of the state-run trade service.

Transformation has to go with construction, but construction is the main task.

To speak of the five-sector economy in the south is to speak of their role in production, in the manufacture of goods. It does not mean that they have an equal role in controlling goods and money. Goods and money must come under the unified control of the state.

In the long-range view, the socialist economy will consist only of two fundamental sectors, the state and collective sectors. Besides, there will be the family economy and a small private economy. We need to exert all-out effort to strengthen the state economy, especially state industry, so that it may play the leading role in the national economy. We are not satisfied with the present situation in the state-run economy, especially at the central level which has been growing too slowly in productivity as well as in quality and efficiency.

That is basically due to the shortage of fuel and raw materials. Quite a few enterprises have run short of raw materials produced in the country simply because the state has been unable to control their production and circulation.

Turning on the socialist way of doing business, Le Duan said that the policies regarding prices, wages and bonuses as well as the regulations on market operations, on commodities and materials exchange, play a role of prime importance.

Le Duan then spoke of the need of remedying the abnormal state in the distribution and flow of goods.

He stressed:

We must and can control production, and every link in the production process from manpower, land and trades. We must and can rearrange and develop production in a planned way. We must control distribution, circulation, and consumption at the grassroots, in each commune, city ward, district, province and city and in the whole country. The government (central and local) must control the market through a rational assignment of power in order to achieve unified management of the main items.

Le Duan then pointed to the need of achieving balance of the state budget and to the key role of science and technique in economic building and reconstruction.

On the foreign economic policy, the general secretary stressed on the need to expand foreign trade, to develop export in order to increase the import of more and more technology, raw materials for the re-equipment of the national economy and at the same time to enable everlarger export with a higher quality with a view to gradually achieving balance of export and import. That will actually help accelerate socialist industrialization, he said.

He went on:

"We should attach first importance to our cooperation with the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA), first of all with the Soviet Union, considering the all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union a basic and long-range task. We should also broaden our cooperation with Laos and Kampuchea. At the same time we should extend our economic relations with other countries and international organization in order to defeat the imperialists and hegemonists policy of economic blockade.

In his speech, Le Duan also dealt with the question of combining the economy with national defence and the question of personnel training.

STATE COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE ON 16 DEC SESSION

BK161612 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 Dec 83

[SRV Council of State Communique]

[Text] On 16 December, the Council of State met in a regular session under its chairman, Truong Chinh. Hoang Truong Minh, chairman of the Nationalities Council, attended the session.

1. Acting on the recommendation of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Council of State approved the establishment of the General Department of Electronic and Signal Communications Technology [Toonj Cucj Dqleenj Tuwr vaf Kyx Thuaatj Thoong Tin Hoc], an organ of the Council of Ministers.

2. The Council of State discussed and suggested ideas on implementing the law on organization of the people's council and people's committee.

3. The Council of State considered the preparations for the Sixth Meeting of the Seventh National Assembly.

LE DUAN ATTENDS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

OW200841 Hanoi VNA in English 0746 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 20 -- The Sixth Session of the Seventh National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam opened this morning at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall.

The opening meeting was attended by Le Duan, general secretary of the party Central Committee, President of the Council of State Truong Chinh, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong, and other leaders of the party and state.

In his opening address, President of the National Assembly Nguyen Huu Tho said that the National Assembly (?is) holding its sixth session at a time when the people throughout the country were observing a month of friendship between Vietnam and Kampuchea in honour of the 5th National Day of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

"We take this opportunity to convey our warmest fraternal greetings and congratulations to the National Assembly of the P.R.K. and the fraternal Kampuchean people he said.

President Nguyen Huu Tho said that in the light of the resolution of the 5th Plenum of the party Central Committee, the National Assembly will discuss the reports of the Council of Ministers on the implementation of the state plan and budget for 1983 and the targets to be attained in 1985. The National Assembly will also ratify the state budget accounts of 1982. He noted that during the past three years, in spite of piling difficulties, the Vietnamese people have made strenuous efforts and obtained major successes in the building of socialism and defending the socialist fatherland. The national economy has moved from a state of weakness in and decline in the years 1979-80 to a gradual stabilization and is progressing, (?thus) creating conditions for new steps forward. The National Assembly will also discuss and adopt the law on the organization of the people's councils, (?initial) the section on crimes of the penal code and hear a report on the world situation and the diplomatic activities of the state.

AT this morning meeting, the National Assembly heard Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission, present the council's report on the implementation of the state plan in 1983, the tasks of the 1984 plan and the main targets to be attained in 1985. It also heard a report on the draft law on the election of the people's councils at all levels.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO INTENSIFY CADRE TRAINING

BK190528 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] The CPV Central Committee has recently issued a decision on intensifying on-the-job education of party cadres and members in political theory. The decision clearly points out that the purpose of this education is to improve party cadres' and members' understanding of Marxism-Leninism and our party and state line and policies to equip them with a scientific world outlook and methodology and a communist philosophy of life and improve their capability for practical work. The contents of education in political theory include the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism, party and state line and policies, knowledge of economic and state management, and so forth.

There are two programs for political theory education: the general political theory program, which consists of general knowledge of Marxism-Leninism and the basic issues concerning party and state line and policies, and the basic theory program, which consists of the basic principles of philosophy, political economics, scientific communism, history of the party, and party building work.

Aside from these two programs, depending on the requirements of each category of cadres, there are also programs designed to improve knowledge of party and state line and policies, economic and state management, and so forth. The decision also sets forth specific regulations concerning the organization of on-the-job training courses and entrusting provinces, cities, and special zones with the task of building and perfecting schools for on-the-job training in political theory. A number of central sectors and organs, unions of enterprises, and major enterprises having numerous party cadres and members may open schools or classes for on-the-job training in political theory if conditions permit. The propaganda and Training Department of the CPV Central Committee is entrusted with the responsibility of compiling training programs and textbooks, guiding and certifying the founding of schools, and assisting the party Central Committee in guiding the system of on-the-job education in political theory.

TRUONG CHINH ADDRESS ON TASKS OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

OW161319 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Part III of speech by Truong Chinh, Chairman of SRV Council of State, at 30th founding anniversary of the Department for Research on Vietnamese History, Geography, and Literature -- date, place not given; read by announcer]

[Text] Dear comrades: Developing the research achievements we have scored during the 30 years since the founding of the Department for Research on Vietnamese History, Geography, and Literature, the history sector -- including the ethnology and archeology sectors -- should put to good advantage the lessons of history in the course of struggle for nationbuilding and national defense in order to support our people's present socialist construction and the defense of their socialist fatherland. The geography sector should satisfactorily perform its task of surveying our country's potential natural resources and create the conditions for appropriately assigning production forces and redistributing work forces in support of our country's socialist industrialization. The literature sector should put to good use the heritage of our literature and arts in order to support the ideological and cultural revolution and the buildup of a socialist Vietnamese culture.

Doing research work and resolving problems on the histories of the Vietnamese economy, culture, and civilization is an extremely important task. We should devote our forces to completing the great projects in order to be worthy of our heroic Vietnamese people, a people who, throughout their 4-odd-millenia history, have virtually had to wage constant struggles for independence and freedom, and to be worthy of our era -- the great Ho Chi Minh era. Therefore, we should strive to complete the research compilation of the histories of the Vietnamese people; the Vietnamese working class; the CPV; Vietnamese ideology; Vietnamese culture, literature, and economy; Vietnamese geography, including the Vietnam atlas; the popular Vietnamese dictionary; Vietnamese grammar; encyclopedia, and so forth.

At present, regarding key state-level projects, you, comrades, have only completed volume 1 of the history of the Vietnamese people, volume 1 of the history of Vietnamese literature, volume 1 of the Vietnamese geography, the preliminary survey of Vietnamese grammar, and part of the popular Vietnamese dictionary. Such research and compilation work has been done too slowly and is thus unable to meet the requirements in the buildup of a new culture and a new-type socialist man in our country. It is necessary to review experiences, overcome inertia, and continue to advance to accomplish tasks.

The tasks of social sciences in general, and of the history, geography, and literature sectors in particular, are very weighty. We should continue our research in order to grasp the characteristics and rules of development of the Vietnamese society, nation, and people in the course of their advance to become masters of their own country. We should pay attention to doing research on socioeconomic structures in the Vietnamese history and Asian production methods in Vietnam in order to clarify the characteristics, rules, and heritage of our people's history and to perform socialist transformation and satisfactorily carry out socialist construction in our country.

Also, we should do research work on the socioeconomic structures of fraternal nationalities with different levels of development on Vietnamese territory in order to determine the course, form, and steps to be taken to advance those nationalities, along with our people, to socialism.

It is necessary to review the lessons of history in nationbuilding and national defense and dispense education on the traditions of solidarity, stalwart and indomitable struggle, and diligence and creativity in labor of the Vietnamese people. It is necessary to concentrate research work on President Ho Chi Minh's thoughts and ethics for broad education among the people, and study and educate on socialist patriotism, virtues of the new, socialist man, and pure proletarian internationalism.

Social sciences must contribute to the struggle to eliminate negative phenomena in social life and all vestiges of feudalism, bourgeois, imperialist, and neocolonialist thoughts.

In order to make contributions to the world revolutionary movement and to properly acquire the scientific achievements of the times, the social sciences sector must study, with emphasis on the main points, the issues of theory and practice in the socialist construction undertaking, the major experiences in the international communist and workers movements, and the national liberation movement. It is necessary to conduct quality research projects; to contribute to the struggle against Maoism, Chinese expansionism, and hegemonism; to oppose European communism and all other tendencies of opportunism; to oppose the bourgeois ideological system and its reactionary ideological trends such as existentialism, the convergence theory, and so forth.

Together with our entire people, our social sciences sector must actively participate in the world people's struggle against the militarist and bellicose policy of Reagan, who is now preparing for a nuclear war to exterminate mankind and life on the earth. Meanwhile, we must, in many forms, actively support the Soviet Union's rational and sensible peace proposals that Comrade Andropov has advanced on many recent occasions.

As our fourth party congress stressed, the primary task of social sciences, especially philosophy, political-economic science, and socialist science, is to further clarify the great issues relating to the line and policies of Vietnam's revolution in the light of Marxism-Leninism and on the basis of recapitulating the past revolutionary experiences. The current important and pressing task is to scientifically study and settle the theoretical and practical issues in Vietnam's period of transition to socialism.

Many of these issues require a combined and uniform study by many branches of the social sciences. They include: the socioeconomic characteristics of our country in the initial stage of the period of transition to socialism; the strengths and weaknesses left behind by Vietnam's history which must be assessed or inherited; the struggle between the socialist and capitalist roads; the division of stages of the transition period; the rules of socialism, including the rules of the process of advancing from small-scale production to socialist large-scale production; proletarian dictatorship and collective mastery of the laboring people; the three revolutions and the building of a new regime, a new economy, a new culture, and socialist new men; the system of party leadership, popular mastery, and state management; our country's socialist industrialization and the building of material and technological bases of socialism; socialist economic management; and the building, development, and consolidation of our party under the conditions of the party leading the administration.

The Political Bureau pays great attention to further stepping up the socialist revolution in the western highlands provinces. This issue must attract the active participation of the social sciences sector in general and of the history, geography, and literature sectors in particular.

The Social Sciences Commission recently organized a symposium on the western highlands with encouraging results. I hope that you comrades will continue to study and determine the economic and social structures of the ethnic minority nationalities in the western highlands and examine the changes of these structures under the influence of colonialism, neocolonialism, the August revolution, the resistance wars against French colonialism and U.S. imperialism, and particularly the current nationwide socialist revolution.

On this basis, we should seek to understand where the socioeconomic starting point must be to help these nationalities advance toward socialism in the most advantageous way. You should study the characteristics of the western highlands to know which problems should be solved during the period of transition to socialism, especially in the present initial stage. All these burning theoretical and practical issues require painstaking study and practical contributions from our social sciences sector.

Dear comrades, the true goal for social sciences is to have a correct understanding of the laws governing social life and to ensure that all men become masters in the process of social development. The advance from small-scale production to socialist large-scale production in our country constitutes the developmental process of a system of laws.

On the basis of increasing the knowledge of this system, our party has set a path for the direction of our society's development during the entire period of transition. However, the way of understanding and applying these laws to the actual situation in our country is not simple. In particular, the direct advance toward socialism by bypassing the capitalist development stage may lead to the fact that the laws that have an impact on the process of revolutionary changes will multiply and take many forms, thereby making the understanding and application of these laws even more difficult and complicated.

The formation, development, and perfection of our country's socialist revolutionary line went through an entire process from the fourth to the fifth party congress. This is also the process of our party's understanding of the laws; from a low to a higher level, from one aspect to several aspects, and from a part to the whole.

Social sciences must help us understand and develop these laws and formulate conclusions regarding our party's line and policies. This is a very difficult, but glorious, mission. To carry it out, our country's social sciences sector must:

1. Attach importance to studying Marxism-Leninism and the party's line and policies, grasp Vietnam's actual situation, mingle with life, stay close to the masses, really participate in the revolutionary mass movement, recapitulate our country's own experiences, and learn from the experiences of the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries. This is the key to the scientific understanding and grasping of our country's socioeconomic laws.
2. We must work out a master plan for the development of social sciences, including immediate and long-term research subjects, that coordinate fundamental and practical research. We must clearly and nationally divide labor among agencies and institutes that jointly conduct research under the overall guidance of the party. This research must truly become an important part of the ideological, theoretical, and scientific work of our party.
3. We must positively step up the formation of a relatively complete system of social science research installations with an eye to both immediate research and the needs for long-term development of Vietnam's social sciences.

At a time when our research force is still small, we should not scatter it into too many organizations that duplicate work, but should concentrate on building a number of strong installations capable of conducting research, resolving urgent problems, and playing the central role of one entire branch of social sciences. The research organizations should be built realistically and formalism should be avoided. The research plan should be implemented in a centralized and complete manner, and with supervision, with a view to raising the quality of projects and overcoming sloppiness.

4. To build a strong contingent of scientific cadres is of special importance in developing Vietnam's social sciences. That contingent must be trained uniformly; it must be stable in politics, proficient in technical matters, and must truly have research capability. We must adopt appropriate policies, systems, and measures to create favorable conditions for social science workers to satisfactorily fulfill their tasks. We must foster a number of leading scientists who are capable of acting as the core for the building of the entire contingent with a view to meeting the needs for conducting research on subjects raised.

5. We must develop international cooperation in the social science field, particularly regarding the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries. We must strive to rapidly grasp the new achievements of the world's social sciences, the experiences in organizing and managing research work and in training and fostering cadres, while introducing to the world Vietnam's achievements in social science research.

6. Creativity in sciences requires that we assure the party character and principle character and encourage independent thinking, research, and discussion of different viewpoints. Under its centralized guidance in politics and ideology, the party encourages the social science workers to boldly develop the right of collective mastery and dare to assume responsibility in their own specialty. They must thoroughly grasp the principle of centralized democracy and appropriately apply it to the characteristics of scientific research and creative work.

Dear comrades, in the light of the resolutions of the fifth party congress and the resolutions of the third, fourth, and fifth plenums of the Central Committee, you should exert efforts to surge forward, advance Vietnam's social sciences in general, and its history, geography, and literature in particular, by steady steps, and be worthy of the trust of the party and the expectations of the compatriots.

May you comrades have good health and register many still greater achievements in your scientific research.

TAP CHI CONG SAN DISCUSSES DESPOTISM, ABUSE OF POWER

BK171618 Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Oct 83, pp 54-57

[Article by Van Chang: "Arbitrariness and Despotism"]

[Text] When a cadre is assigned to a certain position by our party and state, he will get simultaneously some necessary authority to ensure the satisfactory fulfillment of his duty.

For example, he who is in charge of a locality or a unit has the right to outline plans and guide the implementation of plans, issue decisions, control the implementation of decisions, select his collaborators and promote, commend, and recruit or take disciplinary measures against his subordinate cadres and personnel in accordance with general regulations.

Deprived of these rights, he would be hardly able to perform his duty, and his position could easily become a "sinecure." In providing guidance for a project, after listening to all the views of his collaborators and weighing on different projects, the man in charge has the right to decide and must be responsible for his decisions.

This correctly and specifically manifests the principle of democratic centralization.

Position and power are so coupled with each other and support each other. Power helps fulfill the position while the position is a legal guarantee of power. It is incorrect to make light of power, considering it something bad and unnecessary to the new society.

Power with its genuine scope is a weapon for the revolutionary cadres. It is a means to ensure work effectiveness, firmly maintain discipline in the party and the state machinery, and reflect the laboring people's strength in exercising their collective mastery. It also manifests specifically the dictatorship of the proletariat. It serves as a legal basis for cadres to perform their duties and to independently bear the brunt of resolving problems within their sphere of work responsibility.

It is therefore necessary that every man in charge wield his power firmly. Not exercising his power would mean that he shirks his responsibility.

However, with regard to us, what is worth being mentioned now is that quite a number of cadres of all ranks have abused their power to do wrong, leading to arbitrariness and despotism. Arbitrariness makes one decide everything independently without listening to others' suggestions. Despotism makes one seize all kinds of power and think that one has the right to do everything and disregard the organization. Arbitrariness and despotism usually go together like a figure and its shadow. One is both the cause and the effect of the other. The report on party development at the fifth party congress observed: "Arbitrariness and despotism still prevail in the machinery of our party and state." (Footnote: "Document of the Fifth Congress", Su That Publishing House, Hanoi 1982, Book III, page 55)

Let us take a look at the development and evolution of arbitrariness and despotism.

When a cadre is assigned to a new position, he is usually modest for some time at the beginning. He knows how to listen to the suggestions of people around him and observes the principle of democratic centralization. Until a certain time, he sees himself respected by all around him and even flattered and fawned upon because of his authority. He then realizes that he can use his authority to gain some profit for himself and his family. Henceforth, if he is unable to control himself or if there is no collective control, he begins to summarily seize power and strives to gain some profit with it.

After intentionally committing some wrongdoings on a trial basis -- which can be easily concealed by compelling subordinates to do everything according to his will, isolating "stubborn" subordinates, "favoring" those who side with him, and abusively using the criteria for material remuneration --, and if everything goes smoothly, he will slide further down the path of his wrongdoings. More serious wrongdoing will be committed.

For example, in formulating production and work plans, he will proceed from his subjective thinking, making light of the party policies and lines and overlooking his collaborators' suggestions. In implementing higher authorities' directives and resolutions he will claim the independence and creativity of his locality as a pretext to belittle higher echelons' guidance. He can even go so far as to consider his locality a separate "country."

In his performance of duty, he likes to issue orders, using more coercion than persuasion. He considers his views as the absolute truth and his colleagues as footmen, overlooks sycophants' mistakes, and appoints his fellows to key positions of his agency to act as supporters and to facilitate his monopolistic action in the organization. He simultaneously seeks all means to hide the truth, cover up negativism, isolate honest people, and hold a grudge against those who intend to oppose him.

Regarding benefits, he establishes for himself a separate system of remuneration that far exceeds the criteria established by the party and state. He so makes himself different from others and turns himself into a man whom President Ho used to portray and severely condemn: "When in charge of a zone, he behaves like a king and indulges in arrogance. He has little respect for higher authorities, oppresses his subordinates, and puts on an official air in his public relations, frightening the people. Such 'haughtiness' has caused much antipathy and division." (Footnote: "Ho Chi Minh, Party Development," Su That Publishing House, 1980, Hanoi, page 29).

There are several causes of arbitrariness and despotism. Some people begin to consider themselves superior to all those around them, while others, out of paternalism and pride taken in some of their previous merits, become bossy toward their colleagues. Some people have also acted out of bad motives and wanted to abuse their power to achieve personal ambitions, thus becoming arbitrary and despotic.

No matter what the cause, arbitrariness and despotism are major offenses. They first of all violate the party's ideal and the people's interests. Our party and people have gone through a struggle full of dangers, hardships, and sacrifices to regain power nationwide and every people and every family has contributed to this struggle. Hundreds of thousands and millions of people of several generations have fallen. The power invested in each cadre today has been brought about by this stalwart struggle. This power belongs to our glorious party and heroic nation. In investing each cadre with power, the party and people require him to knowingly and only use this power for the sole purpose of bringing about the highest results in work and of most satisfactorily fulfilling his assigned duty.

Being arbitrary and despotic and, worse still, abusing authority to satisfy personal ambitions and desires runs counter to the ideal, lines, and policies of the party and to the people's interests. It means ingratitude and betrayal of the sacrifices of our compatriots and comrades.

Arbitrariness and despotism are also major offenses in the fact that they have caused serious damage and losses to the machinery of the party and state.

The fifth party congress report on party development clearly pointed to the real status of agencies and units commanded by cadres who are arbitrary and despotic: "The initiative, creativity, and ability of cadres, party members, and people are restrained because they are usually afraid of and reluctant to criticize the cadres in charge. For the sake of saving face, they often overlook the mistakes of agencies and units of the cadres in charge. In those agencies and units, collective mastery is exercised for the sake of formality and the voices of candid and forthright people are normally considered 'negative.' Cases of flattery, fawning, opportunism, 'bending with the wind,' often occur, causing disunity. Cases of subtle or brazen revenge against straightforward cadres normally cannot be avoided." (Footnote: "Document on the Fifth Party Congress," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi 1982, Book III, page 56)

Those agencies and units are sick organizations. Particularly at the present time when the Chinese expansionists-hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists are waging a multifaceted war of sabotage against our country, those agencies and units are good grounds for enemies to perpetrate crimes. In this sense, we can conclude without fear of exaggeration that arbitrariness and despotism create more conditions for the enemies to oppose and attack us.

History as well as the realistic experiences of our party have shown that arbitrary and despotic people share no cruel or perfidious trick to cover up their offenses. They preserve their power by seeking "umbrellas." As a result, they are well versed in flattering and fawning upon their superiors. They use power to maintain power. Consequently, they become increasingly arbitrary and tyrannical. They preserve power through factionalism and never cease to monopolize the organization. They further preserve their power by deceiving the masses. They are therefore notorious demagogues. In the face of so many tricks, all party committee echelons and organizations must be very alert by increasing control and inspection, staying close to party members and the masses, and listening to truthful voices to promptly detect arbitrary and despotic people.

Our party policy is to establish the laboring people's collective mastery. Arbitrariness and despotism are major obstacles to the implementation of the laboring people's collective mastery. President Ho said: Cadres are both leaders and servants of the people. Arbitrary and despotic people have violated President Ho's teachings.

To prevent and eliminate arbitrariness and despotism in all sectors and at all levels, there are several tasks to be done uniformly to intensively educate and forge cadres and party members, promote internal democracy, enhance criticism and self-criticism, step up party control, and promptly and severely deal with arbitrary and despotic people. Along with performing these tasks, we must improve the organizational system, develop and perfect the work statutes in all sectors and at all levels, and clearly determine the responsibility of every level, sector, organization, and individual. A rationally organized machinery with clearly defined functions, authority, principles, and work methods will exert no small impact on restraining arbitrariness and despotism.

We should further pay attention to developing the people's collective mastery and listening to their suggestions. In this regard, Lenin's teaching some 62 years ago is still of significance to us: "In assessing people and eliminating those who 'infiltrate the party,' the 'bureaucrats' and those who 'have been bureaucratized,' the guidance of the proletarian masses outside the party is very valuable. With marvelous effectiveness, the laboring masses can detect the difference between loyal and devoted communist party members and those who are hated and detested by people who earn their living by their own sweat, who have no prerogatives or privileges, and who have no conditions for further promotion." [Footnote: V.I. Lenin: "Complete Book," Progress Publishing House, Moscow 1978, Book 44 page 152).

AUSTRALIAINTELLIGENCE CHIEF RESIGNS OVER BUNGLED EXERCISE

BK190705 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] The director general of Australia's Overseas Intelligence Organization -- ASIS -- has resigned. Mr John Ryan's resignation was confirmed by a spokesman for the acting foreign minister, Mr Bowen. The Australian Secret Intelligence Service received unwelcome publicity at the beginning of the month when several ASIS agents were involved in a bungled training exercise at a Melbourne Hotel. Later Mr Ryan was instructed by the foreign minister, Mr Hayden, to forward the names of those involved in the mock raid to the Victorian government. However, the ASIS agents have since begun a high court action aimed at preventing the release of their names. The raid was meant to be an antiterrorist exercise and took place at the Sheraton Hotel at the beginning of the month. But it went wrong and five men, later described as two ASIS officers and three trainees, were arrested by the police after hotel guests and staff were menaced with machineguns. The federal government ordered an inquiry into the exercise which was carried out without the knowledge of either the hotel staff or Victorian authorities.

Hayden Comments

BK200607 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Hayden, says he expects that a royal commission report will be available early in the new year on a bungled training exercise carried out by the Australian Secret Intelligence Service, ASIS, at a top Melbourne hotel. Mr Hayden said the government had expected to receive the report earlier, but present court action to suppress the names of the 12 ASIA agents involved in the incident had led to delays. Five of the men were arrested by police 3 weeks ago after a training exercise during which guests and staff at Melbourne's Sheraton Hotel were menaced with submachine guns.

Mr Hayden said one of the men involved had made effective contact with the number of people overseas who might suffer what he termed unpleasant consequences if the names of the agents were revealed. The foreign minister also said that at no stage had he asked for the resignation of the director general of ASIS, Mr John Ryan, who had suggested that he would like to see him resign. No official reason has been given for Mr Ryan's resignation over the weekend.

UNION COUNCIL TO SUPPORT BAN ON NUCLEAR SHIPS

BK190707 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Australia's Council of Trade Unions -- the ACTU -- says it will support unions which ban repair work on any allied warships which did not disclose whether they are carrying nuclear weapons. This would conflict with the federal Labor government's new policy which says it is not necessary for allied governments to declare the type of weapons carried on their ships.

The president of the ACTU, Mr Dolan, says his organization's stand is in line with its policy of a nuclear-free Pacific. Recently the federal government was reported to have said the British aircraft carrier Invincible could not use a drydock in Sydney because the British Government would not say whether the ship was carrying nuclear weapons. Under the new policy, Australia has invited the Invincible to use the drydock and some unions have warned they will not work on the ship unless they are certain it is not carrying nuclear weapons.

MALAYSIAROYAL ASSENT GIVEN TO CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL

BK171255 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Dec 83 pp 1, 2

[By Zainah Anwar]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Thurs. -- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill was signed by the timbalan yang dipertuan agung [paramount ruler] at 12.20 P.M. today and has been gazetted.

A special session of Parliament will be called next month to introduce a new Constitution (Amendment) Bill incorporating the government compromise formula that was offered to the rulers as a way out of the impasse over the issue.

It is understood that the rulers, on their part, had given the government certain verbal assurances.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam told a press conference today that the assent was given based on an "agreement and an understanding reached that the government will undertake action to amend the Constitution (Amendment) Act signed today.

"The government," he said, "will fulfil its promise made to the rulers, and in particular to the yang dipertuan agung and the deputy."

Datuk Musa said all other amendments in the act still hold, except for those on Article 66 (5), Article 150 and Schedule Eight.

It is understood that the original compromise formula that was offered to the rulers and rejected by them at the Nov. 20 meeting with an UMNO [United Malay National Organization] Supreme Council delegation were conditionally agreed to by the rulers, except for one, at their meeting at Istana Negara [State Palace] last Sunday.

The new bill to be introduced in January to amend the act passed today is expected to include:

-- Amending the amendment to Schedule Eight which provides that a bill passed by a State Legislative Assembly becomes law after 15 days, with or without the ruler's assent.

According to sources, the king has also given an undertaking that rulers at the State level shall not withhold assent to bills passed by the State Legislative Assemblies.

-- Repealing the amendment to Article 150 and replacing it with the old provision that states that if the king is satisfied that a grave emergency exists whereby the security or economic life of the federation or of any part thereof is threatened, he may issue a proclamation of emergency. The amendment had sought to replace the word king with prime minister.

The sources said the withdrawal of this amendment is done with the understanding that the king, in proclaiming an emergency, shall act only on the advice of the prime minister and the provision should not be interpreted that the king could act unilaterally. But at this stage, it is not known how these verbal undertakings would be guaranteed.

Datuk Musa said the prime minister will announce the date for the special sitting of Parliament after chairing the UMNO Supreme Council meeting on Saturday. It is likely that the sitting will be held before Jan. 11 when the prime minister is due to leave for an official visit to the United States.

This development ends a four-and-a-half month impasse between the government and the rulers over the constitutional amendments passed by Parliament in its July-August session.

According to sources, the Cabinet had decided yesterday that the government would go ahead and gazette the bill today, with or without royal assent. The government was prepared to go to court over this issue, said one source.

This message was passed to the king and his deputy through third parties. According to highly-placed sources, it could have been the prospect of such a confrontation that persuaded the rulers to agree to the deputy king signing the bill.

It was also indicated that if the rulers did not accept the government compromise formula, it would be dropped and the government would stick to the original amendments passed by Parliament. But as a last step to exhaust all possible avenues, the Cabinet had also decided to send a letter to the deputy king (who is performing the duties of the king who is still on leave), with a copy to the king, advising the former to exercise his duties and sign the bill. They were delivered yesterday afternoon to the Istana Tetamu [State Guesthouse] and Istana Negara.

The letter pointed out to the deputy king Article 40 of the Federal Constitution which states that the king "shall act in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet...."

The letter also drew the deputy king's attention to the imperative need for the bill to be signed and gazetted by today to allow the Elections Commission to start work on demarcating the boundaries for new parliamentary and state constituencies. Under the Constitution, this delineation exercise must be carried out within eight to ten years of the last exercise. The last one was in 1974.

According to Datuk Musa, the government had been given legal advice that if royal assent was not given today, the next exercise could only be carried out in 1994. According to the sources, the Cabinet had decided to harden its stand yesterday as it felt that it had exhausted all possible avenues to solve the problem and that this had to be settled by today.

"The government," said one source, "was in no position to compromise or negotiate further. It had bent over backwards enough."

It is learnt that the counter-proposals presented by the Raja Muda of Perak, Raja Tun Azlan Shah, to Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Tuesday contained several requests from the rulers, including additional amendments that the government had found unacceptable. The prime minister was also told that although the rulers had agreed to allow the bill to be assented to, they did not want the bill to be gazetted.

According to sources, the prime minister found this unacceptable and told Raja Tun Azlan that the government had bent over backwards to solve this problem and the rulers must decide whether to accept the compromise formula or not.

The government, said the sources, was not going to compromise any more over any new demands. The deputy king must sign the bill first and the prime minister reiterated the government's promise that a special session of parliament would then be called next month to introduce a new bill containing the amendments to the three provisions that the rulers found unacceptable.

This was the message that was relayed to the rulers. According to the sources, Raja Tun Azlan, together with Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen flew to Kangar on Tuesday evening to consult the raja of Perlis over the government's response to the rulers' counter-proposals. It is understood that the raja of Perlis had responded that it was all right with him. The sultans of Kedah and Kelantan were also consulted and they, too, agreed.

The raja of Perlis, as the country's most senior ruler, then consulted his other brother rulers to get their agreement to allow the deputy king to sign the bill without additional conditions, but those offered by the Government. The last agreement came this morning, paving the way for the deputy king to sign the bill at 12.20 p.m. today at the Istana Tetamu.

Debate Set for 9 Jan

BK171455 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] A new bill on the constitution amendments will be tabled at a special sitting of the Dewan Rakyat [Parliament] on the 9th of next month and the Dewan Negara [Senate] the next day. The prime minister will also convene a meeting of the Barisan Nasional [National Front] Supreme Council on the 8th of next month to brief the component parties on the developments. He will also meet all menteri besar [chief ministers of sultanates] and chief ministers [chief ministers of nonsultanates] at a date to be decided later.

Speaking at a news conference in Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said the Dewan will debate a re-amendment to Article 66/5, under which the number of days for his majesty the yang dipertuan agung, to give the royal assent is extended from the present 15 days to 30. During this period, his majesty can either give the assent or express objections on any bill. If there is an objection, the bill goes back to Parliament for further debate. If the bill is approved without any amendments, his majesty has a further 30 days to give the royal assent. If there is no assent within that period, the bill automatically becomes law.

The prime minister explained that in the negotiations with the rulers, the authority of Parliament was not the negotiable point. The rulers had given a verbal undertaking not to withhold royal assent on state bills without reasonable cause. On the position of the Melaka constitution amendments, which have already been gazetted in the original form, the prime minister said the government will look at the legal aspects of it and necessary steps will be taken.

Earlier, the prime minister chaired a 2-hour special United Malays National Organization Supreme Council meeting which met to discuss the developments. The deputy prime minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, has said the council had given its full backing to the leadership to carry out the amendments.

Mahathir 'Relieved'

BK161305 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister says he is relieved that the problem over the constitutional amendment has been resolved in the manner that Malaysians solve their problems. He expressed his gratitude to all those who have contributed to the success, especially the people, in working out the solution.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir was speaking to newsmen after visiting flooded areas in Terengganu. He says the proposals accepted by the rulers on the constitutional amendment are final. The proposals are essentially the same as the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] formula, presented to the rulers at the meeting in Istana Bukit Kayangan on the 20th of last month.

The prime minister says he has made a recent undertaking that he will modify the amendment in a note to be presented to parliament next month. He has also informed the rulers through the yang dipertuan agung that he needs a verbal undertaking on royal assent to bills passed by state legislative assembly. The UMNO Supreme Council, which will meet tomorrow, will decide on the date for the special sitting of parliament.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir also disclosed that he will convene a Barisan Nasional [National Front] -- Supreme Council meeting soon to explain the issue to the component parties. Details of the proposed changes to the parliament and state constituency boundaries will be set up for display early next month. Election Commission Secretary (Haji Abdul Rashid Haji Abdul Rahman) says the notices on the effects of the proposed recommendations involved in the review of boundaries ought to be published in the government gazette and newspapers next month. This is to follow the granting of the royal assent to the constitutional amendment bill which, among other things, provides for an increase in the number of parliamentary constituencies and state assembly constituencies.

Mahathir Thanks Supporters

BK191615 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamed today thanked all those who have given their support to the government on the constitutional amendment issue. In a special statement issued by the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said that since the past few months, he had received many telegrams and letters from individuals, organizations, and associations who have expressed their support with the government on the issue. He had also received many congratulatory telegrams and messages. On behalf of the government, the prime minister said he would like to express his appreciation to all concerned for their support and their congratulatory messages.

The prime minister today warned of certain groups who may now divert their attention on other matters in efforts to disrupt the unity of the people following the solving of the constitutional amendment issue. He said firm actions will be taken against them regardless of whether they are in the country or abroad.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed is confident that the people will give their support to the government in this matter. He was addressing thousands of people at the (Padang Pelawan) in Melaka today. They thronged the (Padang) to welcome and congratulate the prime minister, who is on a 1-day visit to the state.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir also criticized those who tried to instigate the rulers against the people by making allegation that the government had compromised so much in resolving the issue that the interests of the people have been neglected. The prime minister stressed the issue had been resolved to a compromise but emphasized that the principle of parliamentary democracy and the voice of the people's struggle could not be disposed of cheaply.

U.S. SENATOR GIVES ASSURANCE OF ECONOMIC AID

HK200047 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] U.S. Senator John Melcher assured yesterday that the United States is committed to helping the Philippines stabilize its economy and strengthen its peso in relation to the U.S. dollar. He gave the assurance in talks with Philippine officials. He said there is no serious disagreement between the Democrats and the Republicans in the United States on the manner of assisting the Philippines in its present financial troubles. The Democratic senator also said he will propose a bill in the U.S. Senate to supply the Philippines with surplus agricultural products such as dried milk and wheat. Senator Melcher is winding up his 6-day visit to the country today as personal guest of Agricultural Minister Arturo Tanco.

MARCOS GIVES VIEW OF POLITICAL ISSUES IN INTERVIEW

PM191639 Madrid ABC in Spanish 13 Dec 83 pp 52-53

[Interview with Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos by Tico Medina in Manila; no date given]

[Excerpts] Question: How is your state of health, Mr President?

Answer: I am well. Very well, thanks. I am now trying to keep my weight at 126-127 lbs., and I am actually succeeding.

Question: When do you think you will be coming to Spain, Mr President?

Answer: I hope to be able to go next year, because I plan to visit Europe, especially Spain and Germany, possibly Italy and Yugoslavia.

Question: Mr President, I must ask you directly whether the government bloodied its hands in Aquino's death. Was it involved in Aquino's killing?

Answer: Definitely not. We had nothing to gain from Aquino's death. In fact my administration and I were victims of this unfortunate incident, and the government actually did its utmost to dissuade the late Senator Aquino from returning to the Philippines, because we had received information from our intelligence service concerning a conspiracy to assassinate him. Unfortunately he preferred to ignore the government's advice concerning a postponement of his return. At the moment an independent committee is trying to discover the guilty party or parties.

Question: Tell me, then, Mr President, the status of the investigations into Aquino's assassination.

Answer: The new investigation council headed by retired Judge Mrs Corazon Agrava, whose other members come from the private sector, have organized public meetings and already heard reports from experts and witnesses to the assassination. It is reckoned that the investigations will last until June 1983 [as published], because it has been instructed to leave no stone unturned in its inquiries. [answer ends]

We discussed the Philippines in 1984. This is what he said, in English and Spanish alternately, reciting the data quickly and confidently, very confidently:

"In 1984 we will make up our balance of payments deficit. We have the IMF restructuring plan: This plan has been approved by the IMF and the World Bank for the period 1984-85.

"We will probably take out a loan of some \$215 million, but I hope that 1984 will be a good year for us, because we hope that Japan, the United States, Germany, the other European banking communities, and Britain will all be cooperating -- of course, in supporting us. Our export products are doing well. Coconut oil is improving, and our craft industries are selling very well. We have a very high output of yellow corn [maiz amarillo], rice, and similar products, though of course we still have our problems, as do many countries in their economies -- the rest of the world, I would say... Deficit problems are experienced by 35 of the 80 nonoil producing countries."

Question: Economic problems are political problems, too, Mr President...

Answer: No. They began as economic problems at the time of the Brixton Woods [presumably Bretton Woods] agreements. Since 1971 the world economy has begun to decline, and the United States is partly to blame. Too many dollars have been printed -- some \$80 billion for the Vietnam war. The Vietnam war cost almost \$11 billion a month, and after that interest rates rose and thus all the dollars returned to the United States.

Question: There are some churchmen who want reform. What kinds of reform?

Answer: I have asked the bishops and the cardinal, too. The government is willing to carry out reforms. For instance, elections in May, reforms in the press, within the government; talks are going on. The state and the church are united. There are individual differences between somewhat left-wing churchmen and our political leaders, but the church and state are united. Jaime, Cardinal Sin, and I feel united, and in fact some of the churchmen that were arrested with the communists have been released. Cardinal Sin suggested their release because they are innocent, as innocent as little children unable to understand the aims of the government and the church. So we released even those who confessed to being terrorists -- including party members, nuns and priests. But we support the church itself.

Question: Mr President, top-level Chinese leaders recently visited Japan. The Philippines is very close to the two giants, that is, of Asia...

Answer: The Japanese are very cautious in their exercise of military and political power. They are very discreet. They have always tried to keep China at a lower level, because they fear it, inasmuch as China is such a large country. This is why they maintain a mutual tolerance and appear friendly, but as you can see, the economic development plans put forward by China are making no headway, and we here in Asia are wondering why. While Japan cooperates with Russia and with everyone, there is still not much investment in China; it is being contained. China, in turn, does not want to borrow too much money from Japan. It is a very strange relationship: they maintain a cautious distance, but they know, we all know, that if Japan and China were ever to unite there would be a world power that would dominate not only Asia, bearing in mind China's population and Japan's technology and finances.

AGRAVA BOARD FINDS 'GAP' IN AIRPORT SECURITY

OW200634 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] The Agrava factfinding board has noticed a big gap in the security arrangements at the Manila International Airport during the arrival of former Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. The board resumed its hearing this morning; and Jose Carlos was there:

[Begin recording] [Carlos] The board members got this impression after Col Avelino Avioli commander of the 801st Squadron of the Aviation Security Command, wrapped up his testimony today. Colonel Avioli said his unit, with 245 men, was tasked to secure the tarmac, the departure, and arrival areas of the new Manila International Airport. Fifty-five of them, he said, were responsible for securing the tarmac area of gate 8; yet, from his testimony, it appeared that his unit failed to individually check the service and maintenance crew supposedly authorized to be beneath the China Airlines plane. He said his unit assumed that these crew members were already checked by Philippine Airlines' [PAL] own security officers.

Board members Dante Santos and Luciano Salazar pointed out it appeared that the tarmac area was not sanitized fully. The military version of the assassination indicated that the alleged assailant, Rolando Galman, wearing a PAL maintenance uniform, came from beneath the plane. However, Colonel Avioli does not think so:

[Avioli] To tell you, really, the truth, up to now I could hardly [words indistinct] think of how he could have passed through that [words indistinct] and how he could have entered up the tarmac and up to that, for that matter, up to that area where you said was under the [words indistinct] I could't believe how possibly that he could appear in one of the authorized vehicles, like he could appear in that catering vehicle he could appear in one of those maintenance vehicles, or maybe a car that is good that is authorized. But, sir, even if they are authorized to go the ramp, I want to make it known to this party that all of them were also opened up and they were inspected, so that all the occupants of that particular vehicle are [word indistinct] identified also before he can pass through our checkpoints.

[Carlos] On December 22d, Rosendo Cawaigan, the late senator's former bodyguard turned government informer, will testify before the Agrava board. [end recording]

Board's Credentials Queried

HK200126 Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 14-20 Nov 83 pp 5, 8

[Report: "The Agrava Board: How Credible?"]

[Text] The Fernando Commission has been replaced by the Agrava fact-finding board to investigate the assassination of the late Sen Benigno Aquino, Jr.

But is the Agrava board an improvement on the Fernando Commission which did not possess any credibility at all because its chairman and members were too closely identified with the administration of Pres. Marcos?

Already people are wondering how former Justice Corazon Agrava of Court of Appeals and the other members of the board were chosen by Pres Marcos. Under the Presidential Decree creating the board, its members are supposed to be nominated by various private sectors they are to represent.

BUSINESS DAY's October 24, 1983 issue reported that Justice Agrava was appointed to represent the Women Lawyer's Association and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines. But was there any nomination made by either of these associations? Observers doubt it, considering that the PD [Presidential Decree] creating the board was issued only on October 14, 1983 and Justice Agrava was appointed on October 22, 1983. There was no time for the lawyer members of these two groups or their officers to meet, discuss and agree on a nominee or nominees, which brings out the question of whether, assuming that there was a nomination, there were other nominees than Justice Agrava. If there were, who are they?

Dante Santos is supposed to represent the business sector and Luciano Salazar, the civic and professional groups. Again, it is being asked which business organizations, civic and professional groups nominated these gentlemen. Aside from them, were there other nominees? Considering the numerous business, civic and professional associations existing in the country, it is not possible that they could agree on a single nominee to represent them. It is not even possible for them to get together and agree on any thing on so short a time.

Amado Dizon is supposed to represent the educational sector. The same questions asked about the appointment of others apply to him.

The only member whose nomination was reported in the newspapers is Ernesto Herrera. But those on the labor front point out that his association with the government and men close to the administration does not make him look like the independent, impartial and courageous proper person people expect the members of the Agrava board to be.

Herrera is the secretary general of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP), which is widely regarded as pro-government. He is also secretary-general of the Associated Labor Union (ALU). Herrera is likewise a member of the board of the Welfare Fund of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), a government office. ALU, of which Herrera is secretary general, is headed by Democrito Mendoza, a commissioner of the Social Security Commission representing labor. Mendoza is also president of TUCP. Other personalities in ALU includes Assemblyman Januario Seno, its chief legal counsel, who is a KBL sectoral assemblyman representing labor. Another ALU stalwart is Commissioner Cecilio Seno, who is executive vice president of ALU and is an incumbent commissioner of the National Labor Relations Commissions.

Even Justice Agrava has connections with the government that cannot be ignored. She is the founder of Tahanan Outreach Projects and Services, Inc. (TOPS), a civic organization. TOPS has three offices, one each in Manila, Pasay City and Makati.

The Manila Office of TOPS stands on a lot donated to TOPS on February 8, 1978 by the City of Manila through mayor Ramon Bagatsing. TOPS Makati is housed in a 2-story building constructed especially for TOPS by Mayor Nemesio Yabut. TOPS-Pasay has its offices on the third floor of Pasay City Hal .

TOPS is Justice Agrava's baby. Being its founder and president emeritus, the justice continues to serve as its honorary vice chairman and over-all spark plug. Among the current officers of TOPS are these interesting and eye-opening names:

1. Gen. Prospero Olivas, Honorary President;
2. Teodoro Valencia, honorary chairman;
3. Gregorio Cendana PR.
4. Carlos Valdes, Auditor

Valencia and Cendana are spokesmen of the administration, Valencia as a columnist and Cendana as head of the Information Ministry. Valdes is a financial adviser of Mrs Marcos, and serves as ambassador to Japan.

Gen Olivas is the administration's chief investigator of the Aquino assassination. He has steadfastly pointed to the communists as the author of the airport murder.

Amador Dizon, another member of the Agrava board, is said to have disauthorized a symposium at the Manuel L. Quezon University that was to be sponsored by the economics class when he found out that among the invited speakers were the late former Senator Gerardo Roxas and former Senator Lorenzo M. Tanada.

He was apprehensive of what these opposition men might say against the administration.

Again the question: Is the Agrava Board capable of discharging the task of courageously, fairly and impartially investigating the Aquino assassination to the satisfaction of the Filipino people?

Considering that the military establishment and, ultimately, the administration is a suspect in this investigation, and going by the profile of its membership, including that of its chairman who seems to owe much to the powers that be, it can only be said that the Agrava board is no better than Fernando Commission. It does not have credibility. Some even go to the extent of saying that the investigation is headed towards a whitewash.

VER PROVIDES DETAILS OF NEW SUBVERSIVE GROUP

HK200015 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fabian Ver disclosed yesterday details on the new subversive group and its plot to overthrow the government. He told newsmen yesterday in Baguio City that the new group is composed of members of the clergy, former politicians now with the opposition, and businessmen. Gen Ver said the clique may be receiving financial assistance from abroad and to have an arms cache already in the country. He did not identify the probable sources of foreign support for the new subversive group.

Gen Ver discussed the matter with newsmen before submitting to the president his report on the military intelligence assessment of the group. According to the chief of staff, the new group may also have links with the underground Socialist Democratic Party in the plot to topple the government and seize power. The general further said that the new grouping has been disowned by the Communist Party and the New People's Army. This was learned from captured Communist documents.

On the emergence of the new Moro National Liberation Front leadership, Gen Ver said the new MNLF hierarchy could be more dangerous than that of the Nur Misuari faction. He said the new MNLF leadership under Dimas Pundato was believed responsible for the recent ambushes in Mindanao. President Marcos earlier said efforts are underway to contact the Pundato group.

Meanwhile government troopers have pressed their hunt for Dimas Pundato, the new leader of the MNLF, following the ambush killing over the weekend of six people, including three army troopers, in Lanao del Sur. The ambush was believed perpetrated by 50 armed MNLF elements under Pundato, who military authorities have tagged as more dangerous than than self-proclaimed MNLF chairman Nur Misuari. The commanding general of the Region Unified Command 12 for central Mindanao, Brigadier General (Cesar Carpia), said the ambush victims were on board a truck on their way to Iligan City when fired upon by the rebels.

MILITARY LAUNCHES HUNT FOR NEW MNLF LEADER

HK190221 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 18 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] Military authorities yesterday launched a big manhunt for the new chairman of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) whom they described as "more dangerous" than self-proclaimed MNLF leader Nur Misuari.

Hunted in southern Philippines was Dimas Pundato, 37, who claimed he had wrested the top MNLF post from Misuari. Pundato was linked by military authorities to at least 17 violent incidents in the south. The incidents included kidnaping, extortions, ambushes, encounters with government troopers, and other atrocities.

Pundato split with Misuari last year and formed his own band known as the "MNLF Reformist Group," reportedly backed by influential religious groups in the south, particularly in Lanao and Cotabato. Last year, the sources said, Pundato went to the Islamic Conference in a Middle East country and proclaimed before it that he had taken over the leadership of the MNLF. Before his split with Misuari, Pundato was the vice chairman of the MNLF.

He was reportedly operating in Cotabato, enjoying the support of MNLF field commanders in Basilan, Tawi-Tawi, and Sulu.

The rise of the Pundato-led group was revealed last Thursday night by Defense Minister Juan Enrile during a TV show. Maj Gen Josephus Q. Ramas, Philippine Army (PA) chief, ordered Army brigade commanders in Western Mindanao to step up the hunt for a New People's Army (NPA) commander and a renegade soldier in the region. Targets of the hunt ordered by Ramas were Salvador Bas, of Oroquieta City, Misamis Occidental, and M/Sgt Ernesto Rodriguez, a renegade PC [Philippine Constabulary] soldier.

Bas, who comes from a prominent family, was identified by Col Reynaldo Dilan, Army brigade commander stationed in Pagadian City, as the NPA commander for Western Mindanao. Bas, who was reportedly engaged in the training of NPA recruits, was linked to many ambushes, raids, and killings of civilians in the two Zamboanga provinces.

Dilan told Ramas in a briefing that Rodriguez led an NPA band which killed 38 soldiers and six civilians in a barangay in Zamboanga del Sur last Sept. 29. Rodriguez left the PC in 1979 when he had to pay his hospital bills.

Dilan recalled that in 1979, Rodriguez, who was then a PC sergeant, was seriously wounded and was given the Gold Cross Award for heroism by the PC in Zamboanga del Sur. The military expressed the belief that Rodriguez felt neglected when he had to pay all his hospital bills.

Ramas ordered an intensified hunt for the two top NPA leaders believed to be hiding in the Zamboanga Peninsula.

COLUMNIST ASSAILS HARRASSMENT OF AFP REPORTER

HK200139 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Dec 83 p 36

["Police News Roundup" Column by Ramon Tulfo: "A Newsmen's Trauma"]

[Excerpt] Military intelligence should stop harassing Bobby Coloma, correspondent of AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE (AFP). Coloma was arrested last Sept. 30 while covering that violent rally on Mendiola Street near Malacanang. But he was released because, according to Col. Rolando Abadilla, chief of the PRC Metrocom [Philippine Constabulary Metropolitan Command] intelligence and security group (MISG), it was a case of a "mistaken identify."

Since then, however, some cloak-and-dagger men have made life miserable for the newsmen. Coloma has been trailed by cars with heavily tinted windows on his way to the office and coming home from work and while being sent on assignments. The occupants of these cars have made their presence known to Coloma by deliberately driving along his car and rolling down their cars' windows.

Teodore C. Benigno, AFP's Manila bureau chief, has written Minister Gregorio Cendana of the Office of Media Affairs about the psychological torture that Coloma is being made to undergo. The good minister, however, is taking his own sweet time in acting on Mr Benigno's complaint.

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